THE

SCOTS MAGAZINE,

AND

Edinburgh Literary Miscellany,

FOR MARCH 1807:

With a View of the FORTH *from* HOPETOUN-HOUSE *to* ROSYTH CASTLE, *and a* SECTION *of the proposed* TUNNEL.

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Star

State of the BAROMETER, in inches and decimals, and of Farenheit's THERMOMETER, in the open air, taken in the morning before sun-rise, and at noon; and the quantity of rain-water fallen, in inches and decimals, from February 26. to March 25. 1807, in the vicinity of Edinburgh.

1807.	Barom.	Thermom.		Rain.	Weather.
Feb.		M.	N.	In. Pts.	
26	29.81	27	42	0.01	Clear
27	30.12	31	34	—	Snow
28	30.5	26	44	—	Clear
March 1	30.5	30	43	—	Ditto
2	33.4	20	45	—	Ditto
3	30.	35	43	—	Ditto
4	29.9	32	42	—	Ditto
5	29.9	32	43	—	Ditto
6	29.7	33	45	0.08	Snow
7	29.9	31	46	0.02	Clear
8	29.4	34	43	—	Showers
9	29.9	36	41	—	Clear
10	30.1	33	42	—	Ditto
11	30.2	35	46	—	Ditto
12	30.3	39	43	—	Ditto
13	30.2	35	51	—	Cloudy
14	29.95	34	51	—	Ditto
15	30.05	32	49	—	Ditto
16	29.2	28	45	0.09	Snow
17	29.7	32	43	0.05	Ditto
18	29.31	31	49	0.02	Ditto
19	29.2	35	46	0.01	Ditto
20	29.7	34	46	—	Clear
21	30.1	32	43	0.02	Showers
22	30.2	35	41	0.01	Ditto
23	30.35	32	43	—	Clear
24	30.4	34	48	—	Ditto
25	30.3	30	42	—	Ditto
				Quantity of Rain	0.26

High Water at LEITH, For APRIL 1807.

	Morn.	Even.
Days.	H. M.	H. M.
W. 1	9 26	9 49
Th. 2	10 12	10 33
Fr. 3	10 55	11 16
Sa. 4	11 38	11 58
Su. 5	——	0 19
M. 6	0 39	1 0
Tu. 7	1 21	1 43
W. 8	2 5	2 27
Th. 9	2 50	3 13
Fr. 10	3 37	4 1
Sa. 11	4 27	4 53
Su. 12	5 19	5 46
M. 13	6 13	6 41
Tu. 14	7 8	7 36
W. 15	8 3	8 31
Th. 16	8 58	9 25
Fr. 17	9 51	10 18
Sa. 18	10 44	11 11
Su. 19	11 37	——
M. 20	0 4	0 31
Tu. 21	0 58	1 25
W. 22	1 53	2 21
Th. 23	2 50	3 19
Fr. 24	3 48	4 17
Sa. 25	4 46	5 14
Su. 26	5 42	6 8
M. 27	6 35	7 1
Tu. 28	7 27	7 50
W. 29	8 13	8 35
Th. 30	8 58	9 19

MOON's PHASES,
For APRIL 1807.
Apparent time at Edinburgh.

	D.	H.	M.
New Moon,	8.	1	55. morn.
First Qurtr.	15.	4.	26. morn.
Full Moon,	22.	7.	3. morn.
Last Qurtr.	29.	2.	27. even.

April 25. Princess Mary born, (1776.)

THE
Scots Magazine,
AND
EDINBURGH LITERARY MISCELLANY,
For MARCH 1807.

Description of the View.

Opposite the title page is a Section of the Forth, including a very elegant and Perspective View of the proposed Tunnel, taken a little above Queensferry. Under the head of Review, we have given a full statement of the present state of that undertaking. See page 189—196.

Abstract *of the Principal Arguments for and against the proposed changes in the* Court *of* Session.

With regard to the measure in general, its advocates observe, that the present court has, for some time past, been becoming more and more unequal to executing the business of the country. The great improvements in wealth and commercial industry have occasioned a vast increase in the number of litigations; while, since the era of the Union, that is, for more than a hundred years, no alterations of importance have been made in the mode of administering justice. This appears to have been owing to the absence of the legislature; for, in every session of the Scottish parliament, previous to the Union, changes were made in the municipal law of Scotland. Things, however, are now in such a situation, that it would require two years to dispose of the business now pending before the Court of Session, even supposing no new causes to come on; while the House of Lords have no less than 200 causes before them. The highest authorities, therefore, in that House have declared it to be, with regard to this part of its business, in a state of bankruptcy. Besides that one court is now become inadequate to the business of this country, the too great number of the judges, and the defective mode of taking proof in questions of fact, are said to be radical errors which call for reform.

On the other hand, it is alledged, that the changes proposed are by far too great and sudden. They are greater than all those which have been made for 200 years preceding; and in fact, though doubtless without any intention on the part of the noble mover, they amount to a violation of that article of Union which stipulates for the preservation of the law of Scotland, and the integrity of the Court of Session as then constituted. Even supposing the new provisions good in themselves, it would be many years before they could

could be properly understood, or expeditiously acted upon, by men accustomed to so different a form of procedure. There is in fact no such radical defect in the present system as has been alledged; there has been no national complaint, no petitions given in against it. However willing therefore to accept of a gradual and prudent melioration, they see no necessity for venturing on so vast and hazardous an experiment.

The expediency of a reform in general, was carried without a division both in the Faculty of Advocates and in the Society of Writers to the Signet.

After this general view of the question, the subject divides itself into three parts; 1. The division into Chambers. 2. The Court of Review. 3. Jury Trial.

1. *Division of the Courts.*

The following are the regulations made by the bill on this subject.—The Court of Session, as now constituted, to be divided into three courts, in the first of which the present president shall preside; and the president of the other two to be named by the King out of the number of each court, and to continue during good behaviour. The chambers are to sit, not together, but alternately, each every third day; and they are to make such regulations for the dispatch of Outer-house business as they may think expedient. Each of the chambers shall contain two Lords of Justiciary. Any three Lords in each court to be a quorum. The President to have a vote, but no casting vote; and where there is an equality of votes, the judgement to be in favour of the respondent. The question concerning the chamber before which a cause shall be brought, to be determined by the agreement of parties, or by its priority on the roll.

The advocates of this measure observe, that the Court of Session being, as they conceive, confessedly inadequate to the discharge of its functions, the remedy must be, the establishment of more courts. And it fortunately happens, that the present court is very much incumbered in its proceedings by the excessive number of which it consists. Time is consumed by the speeches of so many different persons; the same responsibility does not attach to each; and the desire of bringing over the rest to his opinion prompts every one to speak too long and too much in the style of a professed advocate. The obvious remedy therefore is to divide the courts into two or more, by which both more business will be done, and it will be performed in a better manner.

The number of three courts, as fixed by the bill, appears to be the most convenient. Each will thus consist of five members, or nearly the same with the English courts; and this number will certainly be sufficient for doing the business of the country.

It will be most convenient that these courts should meet, not at once, but in succession, one day after another, so as to leave an interval of two days between the meeting of each. The most important part of a judge's duty is at home. At present, those learned persons have nearly thirty thousand quarto pages, to peruse, and deliberate upon, in the course of the Session, for which the time allowed is wholly inadequate. But when, by the present plan, the judge is enabled to come to court fully prepared on the subject, the business will be much sooner dispatched.

The opposite party, however, have great doubts as to the necessity of any division of the court at all, and they see great disadvantages with which the measure will be attended.

These

These distinct and separate courts, totally independent of each other, will be liable to pronounce opposite and inconsistent judgements on the same points of law; nor will the confusion, as they conceive, be at all remedied, but rather increased, by the establishment of a Court of Review. At all events, a division into two chambers would be quite sufficient for the business of the country, and would be exposed, in a less degree, to the disadvantages of division. The truth is, it seems very doubtful whether the new system will be attended with greater, or even the same dispatch as before. The Courts, by the proposed bill, are to sit only alternately. The whole sittings therefore will not be more numerous than before; while the introduction of jury trial will greatly increase the quantity of business which must be done in court.

The division into two courts only would be attended with other advantages. It would afford the means of reducing somewhat the number of judges, and thereby lessening the expence of administering justice; and it would leave several who could be exclusively appropriated to Outer-house business, which is at present more behind than any other department.

The propriety of a division into chambers was carried by a majority of 78 to 41 in the Faculty of Advocates, and of 103 to 56 in the Society of Writers to the Signet. A motion for the division into two courts was rejected by the former by a majority of 70 to 64. A motion to reduce the number of judges was rejected by 74 against 62 in the Advocates; and in the Writers to the Signet, by 65 against 46.

2. *The Court of Review.*

By the bill it is provided, That the Court of Review shall consist of a presiding Lord, who shall preside in the same manner as the Chancellor of Scotland was authorized to do by the Act of James V. settling the constitution of the Court of Session: of the Lord Chief Baron, who shall for that purpose be created an extraordinary Lord of Session; and of the Presidents of the three chambers. As however no President is to sit on appeals from his own chamber, the Court will practically consist only of four. To this Court appeals are to come from the three chambers, and are to be discussed in the same manner and form as in the House of Lords; the standing orders of that house being adopted, so far as the court may think fit. The President to have a vote, but no casting vote, as in the chambers. Appeals may be made from the final decisions of this court to the House of Lords, but not from its interlocutory judgements.

This Court is said to be necessary on two accounts. In the first place, it may be expected to diminish the frequency of appeals. The Court of Review must be presumed to consist of the most distinguished lwyers in the kingdom. These, freed from the labour of Jury trials, will deliberate only upon points of law, and will give sentence in the same deliberate manner as is done in the House of Lords. Both the necessity and temptation of appealing must therefore be greatly diminished.

This Court will also be essential, as establishing a fixed standard of laws. Being the supreme court in Scotland, it will remedy that uncertainty and fluctuation which would arise from the decisions of three separate and independent courts.

This Court of Review cannot be considered as illegal, or as any violation of the article of Union which guarantees the integrity of the Court of Session. It will be composed altogether of Lords of Session, with the

the single exception of the Chancellor. At the time of the Union, besides the fifteen, there were four extraordinary Lords; and though these were afterwards abolished as unnecessary, yet the power of restoring such extraordinary Lords must still, by that act, reside in the legislature. And as to the Lord Chancellor, it appears by an act of James V. and by various acts of sederunt, that this officer, when present, always presided in the Court. Nay, even after the Union, the Earl of Finlator and Seafield was in 1713 appointed Lord Chancellor of Scotland, in which capacity he sat and officiated as President; which was aequiesced in by Sir Hugh Dalrymple of North Berwick, who then held that office.

In opposition to these arguments, it is to be observed, that the appointment of any court in this country, superior to the court of Session, is a direct violation of that article of the Union, which provides, that the latter shall retain "the same authority and privileges as before the Union." The Court of Session, become subordinate to this new court, would no longer be the Supreme Court of Justice in this country. The presiding judge, and Lord Chief Baron, might indeed receive the name of extraordinary Lords of Session, but as they would neither sit along with the rest, nor be appointed in the same manner, they could with no propriety be considered as members of that body. The present Lord President, indeed, and the Lord Chief Baron, would suffer a positive injury, by having duties imposed upon them, not only additional to their former ones, but quite of a different nature.

This institution seems to have very little or no tendency to diminish the number of appeals. Its number is rather smaller, since, instead of five, it will generally consist of four; nor is there any decided superiority in the character of its members; nay, for any thing to be found in the bill, the only two permanent judges may be men wholly unacquainted with Scots law. Parties, in calculating upon the chances of success in an appeal, will proceed upon the whole number of judges, in both courts, who have voted in their favour; and it so happens, that, by the new arrangement, they may have a large majority of these, (6 to 3) and at the same time lose their cause. The greater the number of courts that are interposed between the first court, and the court of last resort, and the nearer these approach to each other, the greater is the risk that a litigant shall be drawn on, from one court to another, till he run through the whole career. It may be very proper to impose restrictions on the power of appeals; but these, whether with respect to interlocutory judgments or otherwise, may be applied equally to any of the Chambers, or to the present court of Session, as to the new Court of Review.

If, as already observed, so little respect is likely to be paid to the decisions of this Court, it follows that they can be of no use in fixing a standard of Scots law. On the contrary it will be only another introduced to add to the confusion.

The propriety of this Court was carried in the Faculty of Advocates by a majority of 63 against 61, and in the Writers to the Signet, of 88 against 67.

Trial by Jury in civil cases.

This, by the Act, may take place, in all actions on obligations or other rights of a moveable nature, concluding for the payment of money, or the recovery of goods or effects, or the performance of facts, in all actions of reduction. The trial by Jury is to be ordered by the court on the requisition of either party; and either

either may reclaim against the interlocutor of the chamber allowing or not allowing a Jury; but if two successive interlocutors be given to the same effect, the decision is final, nor is there any appeal on this point to the Court of Review; though that Court may, when the cause comes before itself, direct any part of it to be tried by a Jury. The Court may also, on the petition of either party, grant a delay of the trial, the expence being paid by the party petitioning. And even though no petition be presented, they may of their own accord, should they see reason, order an issue to be tried by a Jury. No suspender, in his process of suspension, shall be allowed to demand a Jury, but the charger may.

In order to supply jurymen, the Sheriff of Haddington is, twenty days before the commencement of every Session, to make out a list of 200 duly qualified householders; and the Sheriff of Linlithgow a similar list of 100. These are to be lodged with the Sheriff of Edinburgh, who, ten days before the beginning of every week, is to make out a list of 48 persons who may perform the office of jurymen during that week. The list of 48 being then presented to the parties, is reduced to one half, by each alternately striking off one.—The remaining 24 are required to appear; after which they are reduced to 12 by the same operation. These twelve then receive the evidence in the usual manner, retire, and deliberate, *till they are all of one mind*; when the foreman is to come forward and state the result.

Three circuit courts are to be held every vacation, that is, twice-a-year, with a president in each. The court, however, if they see good reason, may appoint another judge of the same chamber to relieve the president. The Jurymen are to be furnished by the counties in the same manner as above. A provision is made, that if one of the parties is able to shew why the county appointed by the act cannot afford a proper Jury, recourse is then to be had to the nearest county, where a proper Jury can be found.

In favour of this mode of conducting civil cases, it is observed, that the present mode of taking proof by a commissioner is attended with many disadvantages. The judge, in deciding upon written evidence, has no means of knowing the appearance of the witness, or the manner in which he delivers his testimony, though that is often of more importance than the testimony itself. The witness too does not feel the same check on his conduct, as when in the presence of a Bench and Jury; nor is he liable to the same punishment in case of prevarication. The present system leads often to an enormous expence; the commissioner, agents, and witnesses living often for several days together in an inn at the expence of the parties. In this manner delay too will be prevented, and the matter brought always to a speedy issue by a trial of a few hours duration. This mode will be found useful even for the Judge. In order to state a case, so as to be satisfactory to plain men, he must divest himself of all partiality, and must necessarily consider the case with the utmost attention. As his abilities will thus be subjected to a harder trial than at present, the necessity of raising only able men to the bench will be more felt; and the combination of legal knowledge and acuteness on one side, with common honesty and intelligence on the other, will generally lead to a satisfactory result. Even the unanimity required in juries is defended, on the ground that what may appear to be absurd in theory may be perfectly sound and consistent in practice: that it secures the attentive consideration of the

jury.

juryman to every part of the case at issue, and prevents an invidious discovery of the names and votes of the jurors; and it obviates that dissatisfaction and litigious disposition which might be produced by a party knowing that he had lost his cause only by a small majority.

Those on the other side, however, doubt much whether so great an innovation ought, on any account, to be made on the ancient mode of administering justice in this country; and they are clearly of opinion, that it can be employed with advantage in a few cases only; and that, not at the demand of the parties, but at the discretion of the judge.

The great use of jury trial, considered as a bulwark of the constitution, is in contests between the crown and the subject. It is essential therefore in criminal and in exchequer causes; but in civil cases, it would appear, that judges accustomed to think and deliberate, might be better qualified for deciding, than twelve men taken at random, without any knowledge of law. A Scotch jury would not probably shew the same deference to the opinion of the judge as an English one; they would determine more according to their own notions of law, or rather of equity. The utmost confusion would arise from introducing an institution so foreign to the the rest of our mode of procedure, and to which neither the judges nor the bar have been trained and prepared. The fact is, that it is appointed to take place here, in many cases, which in England are appropriated almost exclusively to chancery.

With regard to delay, there may be much ground of hesitation between the two systems. At present, it is not the time of the judge, but that of the commissioner that is taken up. The former may, in a few hours, peruse a proof which it has cost the latter several days to collect. And when the whole chamber is to be present at the taking of the evidence, and to wait for the unanimous decision of a Scotch jury, there seems reason to apprehend that this single object would employ the whole of their small numbers of sittings. With regard to expence, too, it is remarked, that much will be incurred, which is saved at present. All the witnesses must be brought to court, many from a great distance; and the same must be the case with counsel at the circuits. And there is also, by the present bill, room left for a new system of litigation, as to whether there shall be a Jury or not. And if the parties are dissatisfied, and wish a revisal of the sentence, it can only be by a proof taken anew, at a ruinous expence. But the most exceptionable part of the system, perhaps, is the unanimity required from the jury. It cannot be supposed that twelve men can in all cases agree; and to require them to give an unanimous sentence, is to call upon them to commit a species of perjury. A jury of Scotchmen, who are a good deal attached to their own opinion, and strongly impressed with the sanctity of an oath, would be found particularly unfit subjects for such a regulation.

The question was carried in favour of Jury trial, by a majority of 100 to 36 in the Faculty of Advocates, and by repeated votes (on different questions) in the Society of Writers to the Signet.

To the Editor.

SIR,

On a late occasion I was able to communicate to you a specimen of the paternal authority which was anciently exercised by the sovereigns of this realm over their loving subjects *:— The following will be still more edifying, by shewing the mildness of that jurisdiction, which at a subsequent period was exercised by the church.

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* See Magazine for January, p. 16.

The

The Dealings of the PRESBYTERY *of* PAISLEY *with the Guidwife of* FERGUSLIE. *In* 1643-1646.

Extracted from the records of the Presbytery.

8th June, 1643.

THE Guidwife of Ferguslie having been repeatedly summoned for not attending worship in her Parish Church of Paisley, and her husband reporting that she could not for want of health; the Presbytery ordain the minister to go to Ferguslie, and in presence of the Guidwife read and expound the Scriptures, and sing psalms. He reports his having done so; they appoint him to examine her upon oath, whether it be inability of body or scruples of conscience which prevent her attendance.

June 22.

Report that he examined the Guidwife on oath, who depones, that she was for the present unable to come to Paisley, but wad come if she was able: the Presbytery stop procedure.

27 *March* 1646.

The Guidwife of Ferguslie, after being long dealt with, at last swears and subscribes the Confession of Faith and Covenants, and renounces Popery, before the two ministers of Paisley and the Elders at Blackstone.

June 25.

The Guidwife again dilated for not coming to church. She alledges inability of body, ordered to produce a testimonial from a Physician.

July 30.

A testimonial produced; the Presbytery find it satisfies their act: appoint the ministers of Paisley to deal with her husband to provide ane chamber in Paisley for his wife, that she may reside there for her more easy coming to the kirk.

Sept. 3.

Her husband declares that she cannot be removed at all: ordered to bring her to Paisley that the ministers may have opportunity of frequent converse with her, or to bring a testimonial that she cannot be removed.

Sept. 24.

He reports that he had not an opportunity to see the Physician: the Presbytery advise him before next meeting to bring his wife from Blackstone, either by land or water, to Paisley, to hear the word, and have conferences with the ministers.

Dec. 17.

She is advertised to come and reside at Paisley between and February next.

1*st April* 1647.

Order her to be publickly admonished for not coming to reside at Paisley, as the Presbytery had appointed.

April 22.

Two members report that they had gone and visited the Guidwife of Ferguslie, and had seen her infirm; and she still pretending inability, they had gotten her promise to come to the kirk of Paisley within 20 days, to give content and satisfaction in that point, albeit she should be *carried on her bed.*

May 8.

Mr Henry Calvert minister of Paisley reports, that Margaret Hamilton, Guidwife of Ferguslie, had come to the kirk of Paisley *carried on a bed.*

Memoirs of Dr Alexander Pennecuik *of* New Hall.

(Concluded from August 1806, p. 584.)

At what time, or to whom Dr Pennecuik was married, the writer of this biographical sketch has not been able to discover. Of what number his family once consisted, is equally unknown.

When he was advanced in years, he had only two daughters. One of these was married to the eldest son of Mr Oliphant of Lanton, now Dalmahoy, in Mid-Lothian, on the north side of the Pentland Hills, A. D. 1702. With her he gave the estate of New Hall, on the south verge of these hills, and in the same county. This gentleman is said to have been bred to the bar, and, from high living, to have been considerably involved in debt at the time of his marriage. In 1703, the year following, he sold New Hall to Sir David Forbes, knight, a lawyer of eminence, uncle to the celebrated President Forbes, the prop of Thomson the poet, and father to Mr John Forbes advocate, the friend and patron of Allan Ramsay, author of *The Gentle Shepherd*, and Dr Pennecuik's coadjutor in *The Description of Tweeddale*.

He retained the estate of Romanno, on which he resided till his death. He, then, left it to his younger daughter, who had married Mr Farquharson of Kirktown of Boyne, in Aberdeenshire; from whom it was purchased by the father of its present proprietor Mr Adam Kennedy.

At this time two farms, called upper, and nether Whitefield, between New Hall and Romanno, belonged to the son of the historian and poet Drummond of Hawthornden. Drummond, himself, died in 1649. "The Whitefields," says Dr Pennecuik, in his *Description of Tweeddale*, "are "the heritage of Sir William Drum- "mond, son, and heir, to the learn- "ed poet, and historian William "Drummond of Hawthornden." The poet's father was Sir John Drummond, knight, and Gentleman-usher to James the Sixth; and his son, Dr Pennecuik's friend, was knighted by Charles the Second. Adjacent to the Whitefields, on their east side, are the lands of Coldcoats, now Macbiehill, likewise in the shire of Peebles. By his name, and that of his estate, Drummond is mentioned among Dr Pennecuik's poems, in the "*inscription to be put at the foot of Jonas Hamilton of Coldcoats' picture, drawn by* ——;" and in the "*Elegy upon the supposed Death of Jonas Hamilton of Coldcoats, at the desire of a person of Quality.*" On this Jonas Hamilton of Coldcoat, with his face "of the gypsie hew," his neighbour's playful muse found much subject for friendly mirth; and he is often jocosely held up to notice among the Tweeddale lairds. Says he, alluding to his feats in drinking,

"Drummond, who's yet alive, can tell
"How, from them all, he bore the bell."

The portrait of the poet, this Drummond's father, was, with that of his guest at Hawthornden Ben Jonson, the sign chosen by Allan Ramsay for his shop, as a bookseller, at the east end of the Luckenbooths of Edinburgh. "Worcester Fight," at which Cromwell defeated Charles the Second, is noticed with strong marks of attachment to the royal cause, both in the *Inscription* and *Elegy*, on his companion Coldcoats, who it appears was one of the combatants. In the *Elegy* on his "*supposed death*," with his usual freedom and pleasantry, he thus celebrates his courage and clemency, and adds a vigorous couplet on his general character.

"Va-

" Valiant he was at Worcester Fight, and Town.
" Where, with much bravery, he threw severals down,
" Who were not slain, but, pleased with his pranks,
" Rose up again, and gave kind *Cowie* thanks.
" O Nature! reconcile him, if you can?
" A debauchee, and yet a sober man!"

One of the most interesting circumstances, relating to the literary history of Dr Pennecuik, is the tradition as to his having furnished Allan Ramsay with the beautiful and engaging *Plot*, for his celebrated pastoral comedy, founded on the events attending the defeat of the Marquis of Montrose, and the restoration of Charles the Second by General Monk. This tradition is repeated in the preface to *Ancient Scottish Poems*, published in 1786; and its truth seems to be confirmed, by its concomitancy with authenticated facts. Dr Pennecuik's attachment to the royal cause; and to pastoral poetry, four of his poems being pastorals,—his living at the time of the Restoration, and during all the reign of Charles the Second,—his intimacy with Hamilton of Coldcoats, who was present at Worcester Fight; and with Sir William Drummond, who was knighted by Charles the Second, and the portrait of whose father Ramsay adopted for his sign,—his residence at Romanno, near Peebles, to which Montrose fled, after his surprise and defeat at Philiphaugh,—his acquaintance, as the physician of Tweeddale, with the private histories of all its families, and their fortunes under Montrose,—and his close connection with Mr Forbes of New Hall, the common friend of him and Ramsay,—all ascertained by his own writings, and the authority of Archbishop Nicolson,—concur with this tradition, repeated by the editor of *Ancient Scottish Poems*, and give it weight. On examination, it will be found, that the adventures of Allan Ramsay's " Sir William Worthy," are, merely, the embellished history of one of " the most eminent of the gentry" of Tweeddale who had fought and fled abroad with Montrose after the battle of Philiphaugh, mentioned in the *Description* of the county written with the assistance of Mr Forbes; communicated by Dr Pennecuik to Ramsay, while residing at New Hall, for the ground work of his comedy, and adopted by him, in consequence of the advice, or, at the desire, as he himself expresses it, of Mr Forbes, and his distinguished literary friends. That Ramsay was in the practice of reciting the different scenes of the comedy, as he proceeded in it, to Mr Forbes, and the " literati" who resorted to New Hall, is proved from Tytler's edition of *King James's Poems*; and it is acknowledged by himself, in his *Note* subjoined to the first scene of the comedy in the quarto of 1728, that he had " carried the pastoral the length of five acts, at the desire of " some persons of distinction," evidently alluding " to the literati" mentioned by Mr Tytler; among whom, besides Dr Pennecuik, and Mr Forbes himself, were Sir David Forbes, the proprietor of the place, who had been knighted for promoting the Union, his nephew the celebrated Duncan Forbes, and his Lady's nephew Baron Sir John Clerk of Pennecuik, the most accomplished, and conspicuous men of their age in Scotland. The character of Sir William Worthy appears to have been drawn from Sir David Forbes, in compliment to his affability and taste; and his history, which forms the *Plot*, is that of one of " the most eminent of the gentry" alluded to, in the seventh page of his *Description*, by Dr Pennecuik, narrated to Ramsay, for the basis of a pastoral comedy; as tradition asserts.

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The statement given in the edition of Ramsay's works published in 1800, and since copied inconsiderately into other books, is unfounded. It is there mentioned that the character, and history of Ramsay's knight, were taken from Sir William Purves of Woodhouselee, Baronet; although he was dead long before Ramsay was born, who had no connection afterwards with his family or place; and notwithstanding, as to his history, he neither fought under "Montrose," nor did he go "abroad," as his connection with the *Plot* indispensably requires he should have done. Yet the same editor, from his ignorance as to the life of Dr Pennecuik, scruples not, in a *Note* at the end of Ramsay's *Life*, to call what is only repeated and preserved in the *Preface* to *Ancient Scottish Poems*, as to Dr Pennecuik's concern with "the plot of the Gentle Shepherd," an "unauthorised assertion."

In the *Answer* to the poetical epistle from Mr William Clerk, advocate, brother to Baron Sir John Clerk, of date May 1714, it appears, from the following lines, that Dr Pennecuik had, now, seen many days.

"Oh! how unequal is the match indeed,
"Betwixt your young, and my old hoary head.
"Your blood is warm, your fancy's on the stage;
"This is your spring, but winter of my age.
"My muse cools like my blood, and still grows worse,
"Yours towers aloft, like the Pegasean horse."

After a long, happy, respectable, and useful life, according to the most authentic information that can be obtained, Dr Pennecuik died A. D. 1722, at the age of seventy years: and was buried in the church yard of Newlands by the side of his father; leaving his estate of Romanno to Mr Farquharson, his younger daughter's husband.

"Romanno," says Captain Armstrong, in *The Companion to his Map of Tweeddale*, "was formerly the "property of Romanno of *that Ilk*." "It was since the seat of Dr Pennecuik; a gentleman to whose distinguished abilities, as a physician, poet, historian, genealogist, and botanist, it would be doing an injustice to offer a panegyric from my pen." Such, at least, is the list of his literary attainments, picked up in the county where he latterly resided; and the opinion of them, still retained there.

His *Topographical Account of Tweeddale*, with the botanical information it contains, is commended for its accuracy.

His *Poems*, although, in general, they have little merit compared with later productions; with the exception of those of Drummond, who, in many of his pieces, is not his superior, are at least equal, North of the Tweed, to those of the age he lived in. He is no where driven to that miserable shift, practised even by latter poets of repute, from the want of one with a corresponding termination, of sometimes ending a line with the first half of a word. To a Scotchman, in particular, his performances are interesting, as evidences of the general state of learning and taste in North Britain, near its metropolis, in the seventeenth century. Besides a considerable fund of the then prevalent vein of humour, his poems exhibit many accurate and curious, tho' rough and imperfect, sketches, taken from life, of the manners and customs of our countrymen, at the eras of the important and turbulent transactions attending the Restoration, and during the preludes to the glorious Revolution. The lines "*On a Glutton*;" the "*Inscription for my Bee-house*;" the "*Inscription for my closet*," among others of equal intrinsic value, might even appear, with credit to their author, in any collection of verses whatever.

On

On these considerations, Dr Pennecuik is entitled to a respectable place among our Scottish Poets.

His verses, independent of other recommendations, are of value to such as wish to trace, with accuracy, the progress of literary refinement in this part of our island. They were, he writes, published "at the "importunity of several very ingeni-"ous gentlemen, his friends;" and as he numbered among these, chiefly such as were distinguished by their rank, and learning, and accomplishments; it is very unlikely that they would have acted thus, had his performances been inferior to the usual productions of those times *.

February 2. 1807. *N.*

GAELIC *Etymologies.*

To the Editor.

SIR,

DALGARNOCH, i. e. *Dal-gair-cnoc*, i. e. the dale of the rejoicing hill. This romantic spot attracted the attention of the great *Burns*, who, in order to perpetuate its memory, composed that well-known song, the "Tryst of Dalgarnoch." It is situated in the parish of *Closeburn*, on the banks of the *Nith*, and within a short distance of a druidical temple, as I have before noticed in the antiquities of Closeburn. These *Cnocs*, or *Knocks* (the original word is *Cnuc*) were uniformly devoted to some purpose of religion, justice, or festivity. This little Cnoc is of very inconsiderable elevation, and occupies about half an acre of ground, and appears to have been levelled down for the site of the old church of Dalgarnoch, long since in ruins. This interesting spot is surrounded with a stone and lime dyke, and is still used as a burying place.

Culdees, i. e. *Cill De*, or Ceiledeaich, i. e. the cell or house of God, to distinguish the true worship from that of the druids. Philologists have uniformly mistaken the origin of this word, and have compounded it of the Latin words *Cultores Dei*, than which nothing can be more ridiculous or absurd.

A celebrated Irish Antiquarian justly observes, that none became earlier converts to Christianity than the Druids, or made a more conspicuous figure in promulgating its doctrine; and indeed the uncontrouled influence they possessed over all ranks, from the prince to the peasant, rendered them the fittest instruments for this important task. The conversion of the Druids was, in fact, the conversion of the whole nation. There seems always to have been considerable doubts who the *Culdees* actually were, but as the name is really Gaelic, and it seems agreed on all hands that they were natives of Scotland and Ireland, it may be naturally inferred that they were converted Druids. Indeed if any doubt could be entertained on this head, it is sufficiently obviated by the venerable *Bede* who has handed down to us the consecration of a druidical temple, by the great St Patrick himself. He informs us the saint sanctified *Cloch-oir* by engraving on it the name of *Christ* in *Hebrew*, *Greek*, and *Latin*. Now this *Cloch oir* signifies the golden stone, and was the centre stone of one of the most magnificent druidical temples in Ireland. It is still sacred to the purposes of religion, being a bishop's see, and retaining its original name with very little variation, viz.

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* *Errata* in *August* 1806.—P. 582. co . 2. *for* Chirurgion, *read* Chirurgeon.—Ditto ditto *for* T. P's, *read* J. P's.—P. 583. col. 2. *for* Lordship) not, *read* Lordship) is not,—Ditto ditto *for* Nicholson, *read* Nicolson.—P. 584. col. 1. *for* T. Giffard, *read* J. Giffard. Ditto col. 2. leave out the *comma* after the word introduction.—Passim, *for* Pennecuick, *read* Pennecuik.

Clogher. It therefore appears, that the first propagators of Christianity found it their interest not only to make use of the Druids, but also of their temples, to aid them in the arduous undertaking. Indeed, in many places the original Druidical place of worship thus consecrated of a cellular, or, what is the same thing, of a circular form, remains close to that of more recent erection. Many of them contain three concentric circles, clearly emblematical of the mystery of the Trinity. In several of them, fonts have been discovered, as also repositories of the dead, in the very inner circle, or *Sanctum Sanctorum*.—Now it is well known that baptism, and burying in consecrated ground, are of Christian origin. It seems, therefore, evident, that the first preachers of Christianity bent their first efforts to the conversion of the Druids, the then established clergy; and having succeeded, consecrated their temples, to which both they and the populace were so much attached, and gave to these temples the name *Cill De*, i. e. the House of God, which of course became a general name for the whole sect, and even, though anglicized Culdees, comes as near the original *Cill De* as the genius of the English language can admit.

Fetter-Carn, i. e. *Feadaire Carn*, i. e. the *Piper's, or Minstrel's Carn*. This carn appears to have been devoted (occasionally at least) as most of the carns were, to the purposes of mirth and festivity. It seems to to have answered the same purpose as Dal gair cnoc before mentioned, with this slight difference, that the minstrel in the one case sat on a carn, and in the other on a hillock or tumulus, and played while the people danced around, always observing to keep their right hand to the carn or tumulus, and turn round with the *Sun*, a circuit which it was highly criminal to neglect, either in their festive or religious ceremonies.—Many of these *Carns* derive their names from festive entertainments.—There is a carn near Aberdeen which has no other name but that of the *Dancing Carn*, which is evidently a literal translation of its original gaelic name *Carn Damsaidh*.

Aird, i. e. a cardinal point, or point of the compass. This word is pronounced *Airt*, or rather *Airth*, D, T, and Th, being often commuted.—The most common name is *Airth*, and nothing is more common than for one person to ask another, "from what *Airth* the wind blows," meaning from what point. The original word is *Ard*, and it signifies the summit or highest point of a hill.—It is now mostly used adjectively, and signifies high or elevated. It can hardly be doubted that from *Ard* the Romans borrowed their *Arduus*. The tracing of this word forcibly points out the early ideas and resources of mankind, previous to the discovery of the magnetic compass, and the invention of chronometers. The summits of hills are not only the most obvious, but the most permanent marks, and in all nations we find winds denominated from the particular hills, or other conspicuous objects from which they blew. To a Highlander sheltered in the bosom of a glen, the surrounding *Ards* or hills, were, in fact, a kind of natural compass and sun-dial, and so much are mankind accustomed to make observations on the sun, winds, &c. from surrounding objects, that when removed from the place of their usual residence, even the most intelligent find themselves at a loss to determine the *Airths*, because removed from the particular *Ards* to which they have been accustomed.

An ingenious correspondent lately, (I do not recollect in what number of your useful miscellany) has attempted to derive *Airth* from Earth. But Airth and Earth are totally and radically

radically different, one being derived as aforesaid, from the *Gaelic Ard*, signifying the top of a hill, and hence figuratively a point of the compass, and the other from the *Teutonic Erd*, signifying the globe of the earth. In the incorrect state of the English language, when it approached much nearer the Saxon than at present, it was writen *yird*, and lastly *earth*.

To conclude, I would advise your etymological correspondents not to overlook the gaelic language, for there is in fact more antiquity, information, and originality in it, than in all the languages of Europe put together.

February 24. 1807. *Milo.*

The Censor. N°. III.

Mr Censor,

I Have long sighed in vain for some kindred being into whose bosom I could pour my discontents, occasioned by circumstances, which I am about to relate; when, the other day, I happened to cast my eyes on the Scots Magazine, where the word "Censor" met them, and on reading the article following it, I found, to my unspeakable joy, that you were one with whom I might find, (as a friend of mine often expresses himself) "some point of contact," and more so, to find that with unparalleled generosity you had confined the arena of your censorian exertions to this metropolis: you seem very likely, therefore, to hear my complaints with a portion of fellow feeling; because, any one who takes upon himself the office of Censor, may be supposed to have a wish to hear the complaints of those who pine in secret, and who, perhaps, like himself, would have become Censors long before this time, but from a kind of sneaking reluctance have declined the task. And farther to encourage you in the exercise of your functions, and to shew that your design has not crept unnoticed unto the world, the Scots Magazine had not three days seen the light, before it was currently reported, among a select convocation of the discontented, (where I happened to be present,) that a philanthropic gentleman, whose name was unknown, had undertaken to wield the satiric lash in correcting the faulty, and defending those oppressed beings hitherto distinguished by the names of "Bog Stalkers," or "Idle Fellows."

I have now spun out a tolerable introduction, and shall, Mr Censor, (as accords with the practice of all that genus to which I belong) give you my history and grounds of complaint.

I am a man, not of large fortune, but blessed with such a degree of exertion as is sufficient to secure a competent share of the good things of this life, and some leisure hours; a few of which I beguile in walking about the public streets of this city, and noting down the faults or excellencies of my fellow walkers, as they happen to come under my observation. Such a temper sometimes produces thoughtfulness, which to the thinker is a most inconvenient state of mind in a crowded street, and among the busy and the idle, most of whom in the city are much upon a par in point of (I shall not call it politeness) that equable suavity of manners which a few only possess. I shall recount to you some of the most disagreeable epochs in a walk of this kind. I live in the New Town, and about two o'clock (in fashionable language the morning,) I sally out in order to enjoy my walk and observations; in my progress along Prince's Street, the polite *Hauteur* with which the motley crowd of coxcombs of both sexes, field and subaltern officers, and grown-up boys, ycleped gentlemen, eye me be-

being of a neuter kind, is tolerable; when on the North Bridge, the long extended row of students returning from College fraught with learning; together with an endless farrago of walkers of every description, attract the attention. Should any of our Amazonian fair, in their irrigated progress, come into contact with me when (poor soul) with pious care framing my steps so as to avoid giving offence to the overhanging paunch of some worthy citizen; their gently chiding whisper is that elegant epithet "a great brute." Some of those retainers of learning before mentioned seem to have come to College with the intention of attaining learning for the mere mercenary purpose of applying it to the best pecuniary advantage; without so much as carrying along with them the dictates of common civility: some of these pert nondescripts unbend their minds by impeding the industrious, and do all in their power to irritate and inveigle in a quarrel the other species of walkers.

Upon the South Bridge, the crowds of porters, apprentices, &c, produce inconveniencies which overleap the power of police, and are dangerous in the extreme to thoughtful, or, in their language, thoughtless walkers. When an unfortunate confusion happens between them and a thoughtful walker, their mode of hailing is, "What the devil's the fellow thinking of?" or, "What's the use of idle folk like you, man?" Sometimes when delivering their cargoes at a shop door, the spokes of the Leith carts intervene and form a barrier at once dangerous and impenetrable. In returning home, I sometimes go by the High Street, where the most distinguished of our citizens, loaded with civic honours, standing in their shop doors, eye with sovereign contempt the insignificant passenger: this leads me to the streets of mercantile fame, the Luckenbooths and Lawn-market, the climates of which breathe such insuperable curiosity regarding the character, birth, and condition of the walkers, that Fergusson has well said,

"Now stair-head critics, senseless fools,
"Censure their aim, and pride their rules,
"*In Luckenbooths* wi' glowrin' eye
"Their neebours sma'est faults descry;
"If ony loon should dander there,
"Of aukward gait and foreign air,
"They trace his steps till they can tell
"His pedigree as weel's himsell."

EDINA.

The whisper of enquiry runs from door to door in strains like these, "Who can this idle fellow be?" "He's a bog-stalking-like tyke." I sometimes attend at auctions of books, where, with a few exceptions, the company are as ungracious as in other places, and where a class of students, which I have before described, are in their behaviour full as boorish as some of them were before emerging from obscurity in the country.

In short, Mr Censor, a spirit of selfish uncivility seems to pervade most of the passengers in our streets, which has given occasion for Englishmen and foreigners to paint it on the forehead of their character.

I shall end my complaints, Mr Censor, by earnestly intreating you to insert them in your paper, which will be an inconceivable gratification to

A BOG-STALKER.

P. S. I could have illustrated my complaints by a great many fine things from Gay's poem of "Trivia;" instead of which I shall only propose, that, as many pious men are printing Bibles for the information of the heathen, some of the enlightened in this city would, in like manner, print that poem, and distribute copies gratis among those who, like me, grope in ignorance.

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As a farther incitement to the insertion of my complaints, I mention the following: I think they will be among the first, if not the very first that have been presented to you. And when many mutes, who smart under distress, see, that "the Censor" is a civil, good-natured kind of a man, they will offer their complaints, your sphere of usefulness will be enlarged, and you will shine among the most distinguished philanthropists of the age.

B. S.

Account of the Life and Character of
JAMES MACKNIGHT, *D. D.*

(*Concluded from p.* 109.)

THE character of a man whose life was devoted to a single object of incessant study, can hardly be expected to afford scope for much variety of delineation. Perhaps the circumstances, which have been related, sufficiently indicate its prominent features; and we might leave the consideration of it, with observing, that it was strongly marked by vigour, firmness, good sense, and unbending integrity.—Yet we shall find, on a nearer inspection, that it is not unworthy of being contemplated more minutely; because it exhibits some traits of professional virtue, on which the mind may, for a little, dwell with pleasure and advantage. Such examples in real life illustrate the excellence of pure religion; and it is with peculiar interest that we read descriptions which make us familiarly acquainted with those who have contributed, by their labours, to the instruction or the consolation of mankind.

As a Clergyman, the sentiments and conduct of Dr Macknight were equally characterized by consistence and propriety. In the discharge of every public and private duty of religion, with a constant reliance on divine aid, he was regular and steady. He knew and felt what became the sacred office which he held; and never departed on any occasion from the dignity or decorum of his professional character. Having given himself wholly to the meditation of divine things, he continued in them: In the work of his Master he was stedfast and faithful to the end. His piety was at once sincere, rational, and without ostentation. To be useful in the cause of truth and virtue, was his highest ambition: and with all the means of attaining this end, which the resources of a well-informed and liberal mind could supply, he united a zeal for the interests of Christianity, that terminated only with his life.

In that branch of the pastoral office which is called Lecturing, his learning and ability were much admired, and never failed to please, as well as to instruct and edify, in a degree which has seldom been equalled. As a preacher, also, without pretensions to the graces of elocution, he had a certain earnestness of manner, evidently proceeding from the heart, and from a sincere anxiety to be useful, which always commanded the attention, and excited the interest of the hearers. In doctrine, he shewed uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity; his sentiments were just, energetic, and impressive. And his constant object was to press on the minds of his people the truths necessary for the correction of vice, and the advancement of piety, knowledge, and goodness. With this view he may be said to have affected a greater than usual plainness of diction.—It is true, that to be perspicuous and intelligible to the most illiterate of his audience, ought to be always the chief object of a preacher. But this may be accomplished with a strict adherence to purity of language; and it must be confessed, that the difficulty is great of frequently employing familiar expressions, without

out descending from that propriety which is indispensable to the dignity of the pulpit. It may be added, that his inexhaustible variety of thought and expression in Prayer, bespoke a mind richly stored with religious ideas; and at once surprised and delighted those who regularly attended his ministry.

When engaged, either in private controversy or in the public debates of the Church Courts, he was always remarkable for speaking strictly to the point at issue. He was likewise distinguished by coolness, discretion, and command of temper; he listened with patience to the arguments of his opponents; and in delivering his opinions, he shewed himself uniformly open, candid, and explicit. At the same time, his talent was rather that of business than of address; he appeared to be better fitted for deciding on the merits of a question in debate, than for soothing the passions, or managing the humours of mankind—a qualification rarely possessed but by minds of a superior order. In the management of the Public Charities officially intrusted to the Ministers of Edinburgh, his rigid integrity, and impartial firmness in resisting the effects of all personal interest or solicitation, which he regarded as interfering with the real advantage of Institutions, are still in the recollection of many with whom he then acted. On every occasion, indeed, he thought and acted with the energy of a self-deciding, upright mind. And hence it is, that all his writings evince the sentiments of a masculine independent spirit, uninfluenced by authority, and unfettered by prejudice.

Nor was his praise merely that of professional excellence. On various subjects his range of knowledge was ample and profound. Thus, his taste for classical literature was early formed. He perused the writers of antiquity with critical skill; and of his acquaintance with the Greek language, especially the original of the New Testament, his observations on the force of the particles in his Commentary, are a sufficient proof. In the speculations, also, of metaphysical, moral, and mathematical science, he was a considerable proficient. The fact is, his powers were such as might have been turned with advantage to any department of knowledge or learning.

It may farther be noticed, that in conducting the ordinary affairs of life, he displayed uncommon prudence and sagacity. He was one of those who are generally attentive to small concerns, but on proper occasions shew themselves liberal to a high degree.—Of this, different instances occurred in the course of his transactions with his friends; and he was enabled to act on such a principle of generosity, by his usual habits of economy and prudence.—Dr Macknight's external appearance was sufficiently expressive of his Character. His countenance was manly and commanding, and his gait remarkably erect and firm.

Agreeably to the plan of this sketch, any critical account of Dr Macknight's Works cannot with propriety be given here. It may only be observed in general, that his reputation for sound criticism, extensive knowledge, and clear elucidation of the sacred writings, is rapidly increasing amongst Christians of every denomination; and he must be acknowledged to have been one of the most intelligent, judicious, and candid Expositors of the Scriptures, that ever appeared. Even during his own life time, his diligence was rewarded by an ample portion of respectable fame. The 'Harmony of the Gospels' has long been esteemed a work of standard excellence for the students of evangelical knowledge. His 'Truth of the Gospel

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History' has hitherto attracted the notice of the Public less than any of his other productions. But it well deserves to be more generally read; since of what it proposes to establish, it contains the most satisfying views that can be suggested by learning, acuteness, and good sense, and is admitted by the best judges to be a performance as useful and instructive as any we have on that important subject.

'The Commentary on the Apostolical Epistles' is now held in peculiar estimation; and it may be doubted, whether the scope of the sacred authors of these writings was ever, in any former age of Christianity, so fully, clearly, and happily stated, as has been done by Dr Macknight, in the general Views and Illustrations which he has prefixed to the several Chapters of the Epistles.—In this able, judicious, and learned Work, the Author's method of explaining the Scriptures is every where employed with the greatest success. His object was to discover the meaning of the inspired writers in difficult passages, from a comprehensive view of all the circumstances to which they allude, without regard to interpretations of mere human authority.—— Hence, although on principle attached to the established standards of the Church of Scotland, he did not conceive it as any advantage to the system which he maintained, to urge, in support of its peculiar doctrines, every passage which zeal without knowledge may have employed for that purpose. Nothing, in fact, tends more to injure the cause of truth and religion, than an injudicious appeal to Scripture; or the attempt to establish opinions by the sanction of scriptural words or passages, quoted singly, without regard to what precedes or follows them, and thus invested with a meaning, more than probably, entirely different from what was intended by the sacred writers. Of this mistaken application, Dr Macknight has shewn various instances; remarking, that when a doctrine is sufficiently established by any passage in which it is expressly or undoubtedly declared, we only weaken it by any appeal to other passages, of which the application to that doctrine may be dubious, or at best equivocal. Accordingly, it must be allowed, that in this method of eliciting the true meaning of Scripture, by a due respect to parallel passages, and the design of the whole context, the expositions and views which, with much sagacity of critical investigation, our Author has given of Paul's Epistles, are extremely natural, acute, and sensible.

The Life of the Apostle Paul, which concludes the sixth volume of 'The Translation and Commentary,' is an excellent compendium of the Apostolical History; and may be considered as the Author's view and illustration of the Acts of the Apostles—the only part of the New Testament writings (except the Revelation of St John) to which the labours of Dr Macknight, as a Commentator, were not directed.—In all his writings, his style, though unambitious of elegance or ornament, is perspicuous, and appropriate to the subject.

Dr Macknight enjoyed the friendship and esteem of many eminent Characters among his cotemporaries of the same profession. In the number of these were Dr Blair and Dr Robertson; to whose attachment he owed much on different occasions. —If the portrait which has been given in this account is a faithful resemblance, the name of him whom it represents may now be considered as not unworthy to be associated, in future times, with those of the men in whose society, during his lifetime, he had often the happiness of passing his hours, and whose works will live as the glory of Scot-

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tish literature, while civilization and refinement exist.

Dr Erskine and Dr Findlay had been the companions of his early youth; and although in his opinions on some points of Church policy he differed from these venerable persons, so universally esteemed for piety and profound theological learning, their mutual regard continued unaltered through life. From Lord Hailes he received many valuable hints, relative to the early state of Christianity, of which he availed himself in his last Work. To that learned and truly estimable Character, he was also under peculiar obligations of another kind, through the friendship of the Kilkerran family, with which Lord Hailes was connected by marriage. The character and learning of Dr Macknight had long pointed him out as worthy of being promoted to a distinguished station in the Church. And it was on this ground, that by the immediate influence of John Dalrymple, Esq. brother of Lord Hales, and Provost of Edinburgh at that time, he obtained his election as a Minister of the City.

The proofs of respect which he experienced from many of his younger Brethren in the Church, were highly gratifying to Dr Macknight. Among his friends of this description, there were two for whom he entertained a peculiar esteem; and they will forgive the mention of their names on the present occasion, because the public tribute of regard which they have each had an opportunity of paying to his memory, in the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, was so honourable to him, that it ought not to pass unrecorded. Principal Hill, with that impressive and dignified eloquence which has long been celebrated as having a powerful influence on the decisions of the Assembly, characterized him as—"A venerable Father, who ranked among the most eminent Divines that the Church of Scotland has produced; who often spoke in this House with great ability, and profound knowledge of the subject on which he delivered his opinion; who was a Master in our Israel, concerning all points of ecclesiastical law; and by whose theological labours, conducted during a long life with unremitting assiduity, and directed to the most valuable objects, all of us now daily profit." To Dr Finlayson, of whose firmness, sagacity, and accurate knowledge, he early appreciated the future value to the Church, Dr Macknight was strongly attached by a certain congeniality of mind; and he often had great pleasure in discussing various subjects of his attention, with a friend so remarkable for acuteness, judgement, and strength of intellect. It accorded with the sentiments of all his brethren, when Dr Finlayson, officially reporting to the Assembly the death of Dr Macknight, as joint Collector of the Fund already mentioned, said, that "his deep learning, sound judgement, and great respectability of character, had rendered him one of the brightest ornaments of our Church."

Soon after the time of his being ordained, Dr Macknight married Elizabeth M'Cormick, eldest daughter of the worthy and respectable Samuel M'Cormick, Esq. General Examiner of the Excise in Scotland, —a Lady whose humane and charitable character endeared her to the people in every parish where her husband has officiated as Pastor; and whose tender feelings of sympathy for distress, unwearied activity of benevolence, and constant anxiety to promote the happiness of all whom her kind offices can reach, are still known, and will long be remembered with approbation, in the circle where Providence has blessed her with opportunities

portunities of doing good. By her Dr Macknight had four sons. The eldest, a very promising child, died at the age of seven. Another reached the age of thirty-three, after having suffered much from a lingering distemper, which at last proved fatal to him. The loss of this very amiable young man, was the chief distress which Dr Macknight experienced in the course of his long and useful life. Of his family now remaining, one is engaged in a department of the Profession of the Law, and the other is a Clergyman of the Church of Scotland.

This plain and cursory narrative, which must now be brought to a close, is another proof of what has frequently been remarked, that the history of men whose lives have been spent in the acquisitions of learning, are generally barren of those incidents which excite an interest in the details of biography. Continually occupied with the duties of his office, with his studies, and his writings, Dr Macknight seldom mingled in what may be called the bustle of the world, and had no share in the political transactions of the day. For engaging in these, indeed, as already hinted, he was little qualified, either by the natural bent of his mind, or by his usual habits of life. But he has left behind him a reputation superior to that which is conferred by the pursuits of ambition, or the lustre of events creating only a temporary interest in the passions of men; and his name will probably be remembered with veneration, as long as the study of divine truth continues to be cultivated in the Christian world.

Farther Remarks on the Plan for completing the NEW COLLEGE.

To the Editor.

SIR,

FEW things affect an inhabitant of Edinburgh with more melancholy sensations, than the present state of that splendid edifice, which was destined for its new College. It is needless to enlarge on the celebrity of this school, both in Britain and throughout all Europe; or on the close connection between its prosperity, and that of the city to which it belongs. And though the learning and industry of its professors must always be its principal support, yet there is an unquestionable propriety, that its external appearance and accommodation should bear some proportion to its intrinsic excellence. The proposal therefore of erecting a new college instead of the former old and ruinous building, met with the warm approbation of all true patriots. It cannot indeed be denied, that radical errors were committed upon the occasion of its commencement, which are now irretrievable. Of these the chief undoubtedly was, the undertaking it on too large a scale. But as it has been thus begun, we have no choice left but to continue; and, after all, if the requisite funds could by any means be procured, the improved accommodation and respectability would sufficiently compensate even for the very great expence which has been incurred. But, indeed, its present condition is such as to render its completion a matter of imperious necessity, otherwise the whole of what is already done must be thrown away. Exposed to the weather as it now is, the edifice will moulder away before it is completed. Its magnificent front, with windows open to every blast, and already exhibiting symptoms of premature decay, must be a doleful sight to every passenger. It certainly, therefore, concerns both the honour and the best interests of this country, that such a fabrick, instead of being allowed to go to ruin, should be brought as speedily as possible to a state of completion.

One of your correspondents, in the Magazine for Feb. 1805. started the idea

idea of a lottery being opened for this purpose, as the only means by which it was ever likely to be effected. I have lately been informed that government, with a laudable attention to the interests of literature, have been considering of this plan; and that there is even some likelihood of its being adopted. Now, though I am not in general a friend to lotteries, nor accustomed to engage in them, I certainly would join with every true Scotsman in throwing my mite into such a scheme. So strong would be this patriotic feeling, that I am convinced the plan would succeed though the advantages it afforded were considerably less than in the government one. And so many would engage in this who would not in the other, that probably the interests of the State Lottery might not be materially affected.

Anecdotes illustrative of the Character of the RUSSIAN ARMY.

AS it is to the gallantry of the Russian troops that Europe has now to look for her only hope of safety, and her last bulwark against universal dominion, some few particulars collected in the course of my own reading, on their character, and on the manner in which it was formed, may not be unacceptable at the present moment. The armies of the two greatest military nations in the world now concentrated in one point, announce a contest the most tremendous in its magnitude and consequences, of any that has been witnessed by modern times; and it is impossible to look with indifference on any thing which can tend to throw light on its probable issue.

That firm and immoveable bravery for which this army is so much distinguished, appears to be quite an artificial quality. Little more than an hundred years ago, there was not the east vestige of it. Before the reign of Peter the Great, Russia was not even numbered among the military nations of Europe. Her turbulent and undisciplined militia were little formidable to any monarch except their own. Sully, in giving an account of the grand scheme of Louis XIV hardly thinks the Muscovites worth mentioning, but slightly notices his intention of driving them out of Europe, as a thing which would scarcely require an effort. Even at the accession of Peter, the Swedes were greatly superior. An army of at least 34,000 Russians, the flower of his troops, being attacked by 9000 Swedes, instantly took to flight, lost all their cannon, and were butchered without resistance. Of all the metamorphoses effected by that extraordinary monarch, this, upon the character of his troops, is perhaps the most singular; and if I am not mistaken, the manner in which it was effected is still more singular. It seems to have been solely by the influence of terror. The manner in which this pusillanimity was removed, seems still more singular. The ideas of honour and pride being then altogether foreign to the Russian mind, Peter, who knew the men with whom he had to do, resolved to enact punishments against cowardice, so dreadful and merciless, that whatever might be the danger of standing, that of running away might be still greater. Every officer who sees one of his men flying, is enjoined either to kill him on the spot, or as soon after as he conveniently can. The soldier who deserts his standard, or who, in a besieged city, even speaks of capitulation, shall be put to death. The commander who shall surrender while there is yet a chance of holding out, shall suffer the same punishment*. In pur-

* Recueil d'Anecdotes, Contumes, &c. particuliers aux differens Peuples de la Russia. 6 vols. 12mo. London, 1702. vol. I. p. 182.

pursuance of this system, Prince Menzikoff, before giving battle to the Swedes, regularly assembled his army, and gave them to understand, that in case of defeat, he would decimate them by lot, and hang every tenth man *. In short, the troops found that they durst not be cowards, and that, in battle, their only chance of safety was to stand and fight. By this means, however, a permanent character seems to have been imposed upon them, which no longer requires to be maintained by such violent methods. The want of all information, by removing every means either of seduction or improvement, tends to perpetuate this character when once produced. Hence, probably arises that steady, patient, mechanical bravery, and that slavish obedience, which characterises the Russian army. The soldier seems transported into a complete piece of machinery, which readily obeys the impulse given to it, but has no movement of its own. Some troops, who had been ordered to defend an advanced post, on being informed that the post was already in the enemy's possession, and that if they advanced they would infallibly be cut to pieces, very coolly replied, What is that to us? Prince Doligoronekis ordered us.

Peter the Great issued orders to stop every one who went thro' the streets at night without a lantern. A soldier having met a physician coming home, attended by a servant who carried a lantern, allowed the servant to proceed, but arrested the physician.

A galley having sunk in which some of the guards were, the commander of the next vessel called out, "Save the officers of the guards" A soldier caught hold of a poor man who was just sinking; but before he would lift him, enquired, "Are you an officer of the Guards?" No answer being returned in the affirmative, he allowed him to drop †.

The able author of Observations on the military character of the different European armies, thus describes the Russian troops:

"The Russian soldier is deficient in instruction rather than intelligence; the servile obedience to which he is accustomed from his birth, the rigorous discipline of the army; and his absolute separation from all other nations, (whose language and manners are totally unknown to him,) make him more obedient to his officers, more patient and hardy, than the soldier of any other service. Courage is the general characteristic; it is, if we may so express ourselves, the faith and creed of the Russian soldier. Implicit obedience occasions in him the same effects that enthusiasm does in other nations. The effect which servitude produces is, in this instance, the same with that of the most ardent patriotism; it is more sure and durable than that of enthusiasm, the artificial warmth of which cannot be long kept up. Thus what, by philosophers, is called the last state of degradation, places man on the same level with heroism. The Russian soldiers do not conceive it possible to give up the contest, so long as they have life to continue it. The officers are in general very ignorant; for this reason strangers are in high esteem among them; they are brave in the field, but, like the soldiers, they are so from the effect of discipline. The same horror is conceived in the Russian armies of cowardice, as is entertained in other countries against irreligion and villany. Bravery is a duty from which no one considers himself exempt. A Rus-

* Recueil, &c. vol. I. p. 184.

* Secret Memoirs of the Court of Petersburgh.

Russian camp resembles a horde of Tartars. In the same manner as a people accustomed to obey the laws, mechanically observe them, so do the Russians constantly follow the rules of discipline without daring to depart from them.

The French are more remarkable for boldness and rashness than for intrepidity; the approach of the long and broad Russian bayonets always alarmed them; their grenadiers could never stand their impression. The courage of the Russians is proof against every thing; they know how to insure victory, and to die rather than be beaten. They will beat all other troops if they can but bring them to action: they are moving machines of fire, that consume all in their way. No troops in the world are so careless of being attacked in flank or turned: they think, let the enemy be where he will, if they can but face about to meet him, that he is in front and regular order before them. In the campaign of 1799, endeavours were made to persuade the French army and conscripts that there were no Russians among the troops with which they were to contend. The French every where anxiously enquired of each other whether they had seen the Russians? The idea of the Russian bayonets alarmed their courage."

The character of Russian bravery given by this well-informed writer sufficiently accords with the origin to which I have traced it. And as he justly observes, the operation of such a principle is less precarious than that of the enthusiasm which animates the French troops. It is more suited also to prolonged warfare. And there seems every ground to trust, that though the French may defeat the Russians, their victories will cost them dear; and that they will never, as in the case of the Austrians and Prussians, be able to sweep a Russian army from the face of the earth. A powerful force will always remain, while the almost unlimited means of reinforcement which Russia possesses on her own territory, forms ample proof, that if she cannot succeed in humbling the power of France, she will at least set bounds to its farther progress.

General View of the IRISH *National Character.*

(From Carr's Travels in Ireland.)

THE generous spirit of hospitality, so pregnant with every social virtue, is proverbially Irish, and has been so often commented upon, that, if my feelings would permit, I should have been content with the pleasure of thinking of it, without making a comment upon a subject which has been so frequently the object of merited eulogium.

When I landed in Ireland, too many of those prejudices, which the fallacious delineations of malignant or stupid tourists had excited, clung about me. I had not inhaled the air of that country long before they dropped off, and no doubt retired with those venomous animals which have been most happily expatriated by the good Apostle of Ireland, St Patrick: but neither that tutelar saint, nor the soft moisture of the climate, had any share in their removal; they fled before the genuine character of the people. A stranger will always find it more easy to get in, than to get out of the house of an Irishman. Before the middling classes of society became refined, the spirit of hospitality was the same; but, like a good melon, it appeared under a rough covering; hence it was usual to force the bottle, and nail up the door with barbarous conviviality. I cannot help expressing my regret that English prejudices have been sometimes strengthened,

ened, even by the representations of Irishmen, arising from chagrin, or some worse motive. There is a saying amongst them, that "Put one Irishman on the spit and another will turn it."

The ladies of Ireland possess a peculiarly pleasing frankness of manner, and a vivacity in conversation, which render highly interesting all they do and all they say.

In this open sweetness of deportment, the libertine finds no encouragement; for their modesty must be the subject of remark and eulogy with every stranger. I have been speaking of the respectable class of female society, but the same virtue is to be found in the wretched mud cabin.

The instances of connubial defection are fewer in Ireland, for its size, than in any other country of equal civilization. The appeal of the injured husband to the tribunal of the laws is rare. A distinguished advocate at the Irish bar assured me, that, for the last six years, there have not been more than five actions of *crim. con.* and not so many for the preceding twenty years. Two of those actions were between persons of very unequal situations of life in point of fortune, and were by the bar supposed to have originated in collusion for the hope of gain. The modesty of the Irish ladies is the effect of principle, and not of any coldness in the organization of nature: in no country are the women more fruitful. The husband only feels the tender regrets of love when business tears him from his home: he rarely knows the pang of him

"Who doats, yet doubts; suspects, yet fondly loves."

The instances of ladies "living and dying in single blessedness" are rare in Ireland. I saw only two old maids, and they were too amiable and pleasant not to convince me, that their situation was their choice. The upper classes of Irish women are very handsome, and finely formed; but the lower Irish countrywomen are so disfigured by the smoke of their cabins, and their feet are so enlarged by their being exposed without either shoes or stockings, that I think them inferior in complexion and form to the female peasantry of England. The commonest women in Dublin are, however, in general, remarkable for the delicacy of their hands and arms, and the whiteness of the bosom. They are also in general powerfully made, and able to protect themselves. In Dublin I saw a combat between an English footman and an Irish fishwoman, which was well maintained for some time, until at length the footman got most soundly threshed, and was obliged to yield; the fair Mendoza received many severe blows, but the bystanders never interfered, so convinced were they of the superiority of her stamina, and pugilistic powers. The ladies of Ireland are generally elegant, and frequently highly educated: there are very few who do not speak French fluently, and many speak it with the purity of its native accentuation. They also frequently add Italian to their accomplishments, and it is no unusual circumstance to hear a young lady enter, with a critical knowledge, into the merits of the most celebrated authors, with a diffidence which shews that she is moved by a thirst for knowledge, and not by vanity. They are more highly accomplished in instrumental than in vocal music; a greater musical treat can scarcely be enjoyed than to hear some of them perform their own Irish airs, which are singularly sweet, simple, and affecting. Those who have been present at a ball in Ireland, can best attest the spirit, good humour, grace, and elegance, which prevail in it. In this accomplishment they may rank next to the animated inhabitants of Paris. The balls in Dublin are very frequent, owing to there

there being such a poverty of public amusements, and this circumstance has also an evident tendency to enlarge and strengthen the social circle. Many of the ladies had a little of that peculiarity of pronunciation which is coarsely called the brogue, but it is a very small portion of it, and is far from being unpleasant, as long as a stranger is susceptible of it, which is but for a very short time. It is but natural to suppose that the pronunciation of an English lady must be as perceptible to an Irish lady who had always been confined to her own country, as that of the latter is to the former.

I know not how to make my reader better acquainted with the Irish gentry, than by the following description which Grattan has given of them: "I think," said he, I know my country; I think I have a right to know her. She has her weaknessess: were she perfect, one would admire her more, but love her less. *The Gentlemen of Ireland act on sudden impulse; but that impulse is the result of a warm heart, a strong head, and great personal determination.* The errors incident to such a principle of action, must be their errors; but then the virtues belonging to that principle must be their virtues also; such errors may give a pretence to their enemies, but such virtues afford salvation to their country."

The practice of duelling, which has effected more injury to the Irish character than any other cause, is subsiding; but truth calls upon me to say, that it still has too wide a latitude of action. I do not defend duelling, but there are circumstances which call for an appeal beyond the law, and will be satisfied; and the revenge of a bruiser is that of a blackguard. The cause which provokes a duel ought to be of an imperious nature, and the remedy would then be more rarely sought. At a bookseller's in Nassaw-street I purchased a pamphlet, of which the seller said he had sold many copies, entitled "Advice to Seconds," containing general rules and instructions for all seconds in duels. I one day breakfasted with a gentleman, a shirt was airing at the fire, and I observed, that it was patched at the bottom in two places, I was, of course, a little surprised at such a discovery in any part of the dress of a man of rank and fortune: he saw what had attracted my eye, and laughingly told me that he had been shot through the body in a duel in that very shirt, and that it was its turn that day to be worn: the wound, I found, had nearly proved fatal, but did honour to the patriotic spirit of the owner of the shirt. Formerly this appeal to bullets or cold iron was horribly and ridiculously frequent in Ireland. An Irish gentleman informed me, that some years since an acquaintance of his, just arrived in Ireland from England, put up at an inn, and hearing a noise in the next room like somebody pricking the wainscot with a sword, called up the waiter, and demanded of him the cause of his being so disturbed; "Oh! and plaze your honour," said the fellow, "its only Lord C— pushing a little, because he expects to fight with some of his friends whom he has asked to dine with him here to-day," It was not from a sanguinary disposition, but solely from the chivalrous desire of preserving the far-famed bravery of his country from the stain of a doubt, that often induced an Irishman to mingle in a fray where he could have no interest or provocation.

(To be continued.)

Thoughts on the FUNDING SYSTEM.

To the Editor.

SIR,

THE Funding System at its commencement gives a nation great and powerful resources, but in the

the end completly takes them away. It would require but little reasoning to demonstrate that Great Britain stands mortgaged for triple its value. But the Funding System is of all others the most disastrous to a nation; because when it has once been adopted and acted on to a certain degree, it is impossible to advance, and ruinous to retreat.

Could the whole national debt be redeemed to-morrow, it would be the greatest calamity that could possibly befall us. The whole quantity of *Specie* in the kingdom has been reckoned L.20,000,000, and is perhaps over-rated. But the national debt has aided the circulating medium, and in fact become identified with it, being transferable at the will of the holder, and applicable to any other speculation in which he chuses to embark.

The national debt, therefore, provided the nation can go on with it, has been an advantage so far, and not a disadvantage. Every increase of it has increased the value of all commodities in the same ratio, but a decrease of the National debt must prove inevitable ruin.

The Funding System was, about 20 years ago, considered by the great Mr Pitt to have been carried too great a length, and a Sinking Fund established to counteract it. In that stage of the business this measure was proper, and perhaps practicable. Our trade and commerce were then, comparatively speaking, in their infancy, and might probably have absorbed the addition annually made to the circulating medium by the gradual redemption of the national debt.

Most of our arithmetical politicians appear to have mistaken the redemption of the national debt. They seem to think, when once it is redeemed, that it is annihilated, and well were it for the nation if this were the case. Previous to the establishment of the Funding System, the national debt was a dead capital bearing interest; transferable indeed, but adding little to the circulating medium, in as much as it withdrew from circulation nearly as much as it added to it, and in some instances more. But the effects of the Sinking Fund are diametrically opposite, being calculated to throw the whole national debt into circulation.

It was this error which ruined the paper currency of America and France. They threw the whole into circulation at once. In neither of these countries did it keep its footing above 6 years. Had the capital instead of the interest been thrown into circulation in Britain, there had been an end of the system 80 years ago.

Now the Sinking Fund has a direct tendency to throw the whole national debt into circulation. It is of no material consequence that it does it by degrees. The effects, tho' gradual and slow, are in the end exactly the same. Let us examine in what manner the national debt is to be redeemed, and in what manner the money thrown into circulation by such redemption is to be employed or invested; but, in the first place, it is necessary to suppose a peace, for till that event take place, the Sinking Fund cannot diminish the national debt, and it is therefore nugatory, as well as fallacious, to argue on its effects.

It is admitted on all hands, that the Sinking Fund will, in the course of the next ten years, redeem at least 120,000,000l. or on an average, about 12,000,000l. annually. The stockholders who sell out to this amount cannot be paid in specie, and must therefore be paid in Bank of England notes: and though this sum appear a trifle at first sight, yet, when it is considered, that in the course of 10 years the Bank of England must issue paper currency

cy to the enormous amount of 120,000,000l. it is a serious consideration indeed. Not a penny of the above sum can be annihilated, but must continue in circulation when once issued.

It is, on the other hand, evident, that our trade and manufactures, instead of increasing, will decrease, when peace takes place; and instead of employing this new circulating medium, will detach a considerable part of the capital already invested on them, and the inevitable consequence will be a call on the Bank to convert its notes into hard cash, and enable those who have sold out of the funds to invest that capital in foreign countries, which is redundant and superfluous at home. Such a call on the Bank must be certain ruin, to prevent which the Government will be under the necessity of guaranteeing the Bank, and the moment they do this, the juggle and deception is at an end. It will then be unfortunately found that there will not be a penny of the national debt paid off, and the Government will not have any alternative left but to refund it, after having unnecessarily shaken the credit, and weakened the confidence of the nation.

I have hitherto taken the case at the best, by supposing that part of this redundant medium may be invested in other nations, but when it is considered that the Bank of England is not at any one time possessed of specie to the amount of 5,000,000l. it does not appear that this can take place in any beneficial degree; for tho' the Bank might retire a few millions of its notes, it must soon give way, and call in the aid of Government to guarantee its notes, and stop the issue of specie; and the moment this takes place, as I observed before, the system is at an end.

It will be retorted on me that the Sinking Fund is a tried system, and has been proved to answer the effect calculated, in as much as it has already redeemed 150,000,000l. of the national debt. Childish argument! It is owing to a misinterpretation of this circumstance that the whole error has originated.

During the few years which intervened from the institution of the Sinking Fund to the commencement of the last French war, the effects of it were weak and unimportant. A few millions thrown into circulation could produce no very considerable effect, and were engrossed by our increasing trade and manufactures. Since the commencement of said war, the Sinking Fund has been completely absorbed, and its effects counteracted by the accumulation of the national debt; and happy it is for the nation that it has been so. If Government paid off a few millions the one day, they borrowed triple the sum the next. The Sinking Fund has therefore neither diminished the national debt, nor increased the circulating medium: but had a peace lasted from its commencement till now, 150,000,000l. of paper currency had been thrown into circulation.

It is evidently paper which Government borrows, and they have nothing but paper to pay with. This paper must revert on the issuers, as it is not money, but the representative sign of it; and it will be found in the end that the national debt is not redeemed, but the security merely transferred from Government to the Bank of England.

As soon as ten years peace takes place, this foolish and fatal delusion will evaporate; but as long as war continues, and Ministers borrow the one day what they paid off the other, the effects of the Sinking Fund can neither be felt nor duly appretiated.

February 24th 1807. } *Amyntor.*

De-

Description of the METEOR *which appeared at* ST ANDREWS.

To the Editor.

SIR,

If you think the following deserving of a place in your Magazine, it is at your service.

ON Friday January 30th, about half past two o'clock, P. M. a meteor, or fire-ball, was seen to pass a little to the eastward of St Andrews, in a direction of nearly from South East to North West. It was of the colour of red lightning, and of about the apparent size of the moon. When first seen, it was at an immense height, and descending with great velocity at a considerable angle with the horizon. Some miles to the northward it burst, and three small pieces parted from it, like as many stars. Soon after was heard a tremendous explosion, resembling a peal of thunder, or three repeated discharges of artillery in quick succession. The inhabitants were much alarmed. The ground and houses were shaken, as if by an earthquake. I have since been informed that the explosion was heard also at Cupar of Fife, and at Dundee. It is not in the least surprising, that, though it was heard by most people here, it was seen by few, since the day was very clear, and the sun shone bright at the time. Had it been at night, the blaze of light it would have thrown around it must have attracted the notice of every person within view of it; but, in the sunshine, its light was so faint, that it would be seen by those only who happened to be looking in that direction at the moment. It is supposed to have fallen in the bay, at the distance of about six or seven miles to the North of St Andrews, where a cloud of smoke was observed at the moment of the explosion.

I am, &c.

Feb. 10. 1807. *W. R.*

SCOTTISH REVIEW.

Observations on the advantages and practicability of making Tunnels under navigable rivers, with a particular View to the proposed Tunnel under the Forth. By James Miller, M. D. and Wm. Vazie, Esq. 8vo. 5s.

ON the first mention of this very remarkable undertaking, we lost no time in presenting our readers with an account of it, with which we were obligingly furnished by the undertakers themselves. These gentlemen have now prepared a pamphlet, containing a more complete explanation of their views, into which they have also, with great propriety, introduced a short account of similar undertakings carried on elsewhere, forming a sort of history of subterraneous communication. We certainly think, that besides the utility of this undertaking, if successfully conducted, it would be highly honourable to Scotland to set the first example of so singular and arduous a species of improvement. We will be happy, therefore, to forward it by any means in our power, consistent wih a regard to truth, and with the duty which we owe to our readers. We shall, therefore, give an abstract of the present pamphlet, as complete as our limits allow of. In the names of its authors we find the union of scientific knowledge with practical skill, and appears to contain all the information which can be desired on the subject.

The work opens with a very judicious statement of the advantages which must arise from such a communication. Water carriage, when extending to a great distance, affords the utmost facility to commercial intercourse; but the effect is opposite, when the extent is very small. The expence of loading and unloading, the injury which the commodities must sustain by these operations, and the necessity of passing thro' different hands,

hands, make it, then, a most serious obstruction to the communication between the opposite coasts. A farmer who lives a few miles on the other side of the Forth, would rather send his grain to Edinburgh in his own cart, and with his own servant, than even take the advantage of water carriage from Queensferry to Leith, with the expence of shipping and landing, and of two land journies. For cattle, which come up in great quantities from the Highlands to the different fairs, and which are difficult and dangerous to transport in boats; for the military; for all travellers in carriages or on horseback; the tunnel would doubtless afford the greatest accommodation. These advantages are indeed so obvious as to render it needless to enlarge upon them.

The next question is one which, to the bulk of readers, will appear more startling.—the practicability of the undertaking. For our parts, however, we cannot see any reasonable ground for this scepticism, provided the substances to be cut through were of a proper nature. If a rock extends under the Firth, from one side to the other, there certainly can be no impossibility of cutting thro' that rock. Yet as, after all, it is not easy to shake off all incredulity with regard to an undertaking so different from the ordinary course of things, the writers have judiciously promised an account of the most important works of a nature analogous to this, which at different times have actually been executed. There is, indeed, no record of any attempt to form a communication under water, except that of Semiramis, who is reported to have turned aside the waters of the Euphrates, till she had constructed an arched way over the bed of the river. Excavations thro' mountains, however, are much more common. The grotto of Pausilippo, carried through a mountain near Naples, is 726 yards in length; its height is fifty, and its breadth eighteen feet. Excavations of much greater magnitude have been made with the view of completing the line of canals. The canal of Picardy was to have been carried thro' a mountain for the space of 14,060 yards, and in 1773 the space of 8400 yards was actually executed. Again, one part of the Grand Junction Canal passes through a mountain for the space of two miles and an half. But the greatest of all these excavations are the tunnels in the Duke of Bridgewater's canals at Walkden Moor, between Worsley and Bolton, in Lancashire; where the tunnelling extends for no less than eighteen miles. The breadth indeed is only ten feet four inches, and the height eight feet six inches, which is less than would be requisite for our tunnel.—Making allowance, however, for this circumstance, the writers calculate that the latter would not require above one fourth of the labour which has been expended on the former.

But besides these subterraneous passages, made with the express view of communication, accident has led to a species of excavation still more analogous to the object in view.—This is where mines have been extended under the sea. Thus the workings in the coal mines at Whitehaven extend to the distance of a mile under the Irish channel. The depth of the mines is from eighty to one hundred and fifty fathoms, and there is a sloping road or tunnel by which the men and horses employed go down in the morning and return in the evening. Fortunately, too, for the projectors, it happens that similar excavations, to an extent nearly as great, have been carried on within a few miles of the place which they propose for the scene of their operations. At Borrowstonness, the workings are carried under the Frith for a mile, which is as far

as the tunnel will require to be from either of the opposite shores. These workings have been carried on for upwards of 500 years without any inconvenience having been experienced from the circumstance of their being under water. At Culross, on the other side of the Firth, coal mines were formerly carried under the sea for the space of two miles. Nay, it appears that they approached still nearer to the description of our present undertaking, having an entrance by sea as well as by land, so that it was possible to go in by one, and come out by the other. Of this, as it stood in 1618, a curious description is given by a man entitling himself *John Taylor, the water poet*, in a tour, from which our authors have extracted the passage, and which we shall also insert here.

'But I, taking my leave of Dumferline, would needs go and see the truly noble knight Sir George Bruce, at a town called the Cooras *; there he made me right welcome, both with variety of fare, and after all, he commanded three of his men to direct me to see his most admirable coal mines, (which if man can or could work wonders,) is a wonder for myself.

'Neither in any travels which I have been, nor in any history that I have read, or any discourse that I have heard, did never see, read, or hear, of any work of man that might parallel, or be equivalent with this unfellowed and remarkable work; and though all I can say of it, cannot describe it according to the worthiness of his vigilant industry, that was both the occasion, inventor, and maintainer of it, yet, rather than the memory of so rare an enterprise, and so accomplished a profit to the commonwealth, shall be raked and smothered in the dust of oblivion, I will give a little touch at the description of it, although I, amongst writers, am like he that worst may hold the candle.

'The mine hath two ways into it, the one by sea, and the other by land; but a man may go into it by land, and return the same way, if he please, and so he may enter it by sea, and by sea he may come forth of it; but I, for varieties sake, went in by sea, and came out by land. Now men may object, how can a man go into a mine, the entrance of it being into the sea, but that the sea will follow him, and so drown the mine? To which objection thus I answer, that at low water the sea being ebbed away, and great part of the sand bare, upon this same sand, (being mixed with rocks and crags,) did the master of the great work build a round circular frame of stone, very thick, strong, and joined together with a glutinous or bituminous matter, so high withall, that the sea at the highest flood, or greatest rage of storm or tempests, can neither dissolve the stones, so well compacted in the building, or yet overflow the height of it.

'Within this round frame, at all adventures, he did set workmen to dig with mattocks, pickaxes, and other instruments fit for such purposes.

'They did dig forty fathoms downright, into and through a rock; at last, they found what they expected, which was sea coal. They, following the vein of the mine, did dig forward still, so that in the space of eight-and-twenty, or nine-and-twenty years, they have digged more than an English mile into the sea, that when men are at work below, an hundred of the greatest ships in Britain may sail over their heads; besides, the mine is most artificially cut like an arch or a vault, all that great length, with many nooks and bye ways, and it is so made, that a man may walk upright in the most places, both in and out. Many poor people are there set on work, which otherwise, through want of employment, would perish.

'But when I had seen the mine, and was come forth of it again, after my thanks given to Sir George Bruce, I told him that if the plotters of the powder treason in England had seen this mine, that they perhaps would have attempted to have left the parliament house, and have undermined the Thames, and so have blown up the barges and wherries wherein the king and all the estates of our kingdom were. Moreover I said, that I could afford to turn tapster at London, so that I had but

tle

* Provincial mode of prouncing the word Culross.

one quarter of a mile of his mine to make me a cellar to keep beer and bottle ale in. The water of the mine, by the industry of Sir George Bruce, is all conveyed to one well, near the land, where he hath a device like a horse mill, that with three horses, and a great chain of iron going downward many fathoms, with thirty-six buckets fastened to the chain, of the which eighteen go down still to be filled, and eighteen ascend up to be emptied, which do empty themselves without any man's labour, into a trough that conveys the water into the sea; by which means he saves his mine,' P. 42.

At Valleyfield, and Grange, too, the coal is wrought to the distance of 600, 1200, and 1700 yards within high water mark. In the works of Grange, the space excavated under water amounts to 964,400 cubic yards, while 235,600 will be sufficient for the tunnel.

Having thus established the general practicability of the measure, the next question comes to be, its practicability in the present instance. We have already stated the grounds on which Mr Vazie rests his confidence as to this point. For many miles along the Forth, both to the east and west of Queen'sferry, the same mineral substances are found on each side of the river; whinstone in one place and limestone on the other; and there is every reason to think that they reach the whole way across. Now, in the place designed for the tunnel, there is found, on both sides, freestone, which is the substance of all others the most desirable for cutting through. From such a disposition of the strata there seems every reason to think that the freestone will extend the whole way across the Firth, in which case the work may be executed with the utmost facility. Whether such be actually the case must be determined by trials, about to be instituted; but the presumption is certainly in its favour.

There is one very serious objection, however, which must be obviated before engaging in such an undertaking. Though the passage may be rendered safe, will not the water filter through, in such a manner as to render it wet and uncomfortable? Against this danger, the projectors consider themselves as completely secured by the very circumstance of its being under the sea. Strata, in such a situation are always found to be less pervious to water than elsewhere; and independent of this circumstance, the thick layer of sleech, or mud, which covers the bed of the Forth, and is in the highest degree retentive of water, forms a full security against this inconvenience. Accordingly it is not at all experienced in the mining operations which are carried on in the neighbourhood. At Whitehaven, too, the roads are so excessively dry, that the workmen are under the necessity of watering them. The water poet, above mentioned, complains of no inconvenience he suffered in his sub-marine passage; but on the contrary, quaintly calls it,

A dark, light, pleasant, profitable hell.

A question, however, of the first importance still remains to be discussed. Would the undertaking yield such a revenue as fully to reimburse those who might engage in it? Some temptation of extraordinary profit must even be held out, in order to engage them to embark in an enterprize, which certainly is rather out of the common road. This temptation the undertakers consider themselves as fully prepared to offer. As the subject is of the greatest importance, we shall make a pretty long extract from their calculations on this subject.

The amount of the revenue from the fares at Queensferry has been variously stated. The rent which is received by the proprietors of the ferry, is only L. 400 per annum, but including the wages of the boatmen, and expences for rea

tear and wear of boats, &c. the actual income has been estimated by some at L.3000 per annum, and by others so high as L.6000. But as no account of the receipts is kept, and if it were, it might not be accessible for the purpose of our present investigation, we shall relinquish this as a doubtful criterion to determine the question, and proceed on surer grounds.

The rent of the toll-bar in the immediate vicinity of North Queensferry is well known. It is also well known, that all travellers on horseback, or in carriages; all kinds of cattle, sheep, &c. which cross at the ferry, to whatever part of the country they are going, must pass through this turnpike-gate.—Every kind of fare, excepting foot-passengers, which is effectual at the ferry, contributes also in a certain proportion to the revenue of the toll-bar; and as there is no extraneous expence attached to this revenue, beside the wages or salary of the collector, if a fair and reasonable allowance be made for this, and added to the rent paid to the trustees, we shall discover the amount of revenue received from the public. By pursuing this method, the amount of revenue calculated, cannot be less than the actual sum paid, otherwise the tacksman would sustain an annual loss, or not have a reasonable gain for his care and attention: but the sum received may be greater; and if this be the case, the circumstance is so much the more favourable to our present argument.

The following is a statement of the amount of revenue, which, according to this view, must be received at the turnpike gate:

Actual rent paid to the trustees, ...	L.318	0	0
Wages of the collector, . .	54	12	0
15 per cent. allowed on the whole sum as profit to the lessee, ...	47	14	0
Amount of exemptions, manure, building materials, &c.	12	4	0
	L.432	10	0

Now, taking the gross amount of the sum received for tolls, as it is discovered in the way stated above, the next thing is to find out the proportions of the various subjects that are liable to toll duties, from which this sum is to be made up; and we shall be enabled to approach still nearer to these proportions, if one or more of them have been already determined. Proceeding, therefore, on these data, the following will be found to be a pretty accurate view of the subjects from which toll is received at this turnpike-gate, in the course of a year.

5,200 Carriages, 9d. each,	L.195	0	0
12,000 Horses, 1½d. each, .	75	0	0
13,000 Carts, 2d. each, . .	108	6	8
20,000 Cattle, ½d. each, . .	41	13	4
12,000 Sheep, ¼d. each, . .	12	10	0
	L.432	10	0

The whole of these, it is needless to observe, would immediately pass by the tunnel after it is opened, as it would afford to every description of travelling less interruption, and, a more commodious passage. But there are other considerable sources of income to the revenue at the tunnel, which are at present wholly unproductive at the toll-bar. This is the duty to be paid by foot passengers, who take the benefit of the passage by the tunnel. The number of foot passengers may be estimated at not less than 80,000 annually. To these sources is to be added another, which, at the toll bar, is also unproductive.—This is the duty to be paid by mail-coaches and the army, whether infantry or cavalry; but especially the latter.—This would be considerable; but perhaps Government might see proper to stipulate for a certain annual allowance, as was to have been done in another similar case *. And, finally, let there be added to these, a certain proportion of travellers which at present go by Stirling. And, finally, let there be added to these, a certain proportion of travellers, which at present go by Stirling or Kinghorn, to some of whom the passage by the tunnel would be in a more direct line, and to others it would be more certain and more commodious.

Taking, then, into account these various sources of revenue, which to those who attentively consider the circumstances

* The case alluded to, is the tunnel that was proposed to be made under the Thames at Gravesend. Philip's Inland Navigation. p. 243.

stances and the means of investigation, will not appear to be over-rated; and allowing the toll on the different subjects that pass the tunnel, to be fixed even at a more moderate rate than what was allowed by authority of parliament, in the case of the proposed tunnel under the Thames at Gravesend, the annual amount of this income may fairly be estimated in the following manner:

5200	Carriages. 5s. each,	L.1300	0	0
12000	Horses, 1s.	600	0	0
13000	Carts, 2s. 6d. . .	1625	0	0
20000	Cattle 9d.	750	0	0
12000	Sheep, 3d.	150	0	0
80000	Foot passengers, 2d.	666	13	4
	Allowance from Government, ...	1000	0	0
		L.6091	13	4

The revenue of the first year would not be less than this sum; because it depends immediately on the present state of the intercourse, on the quantity of travelling now on the road, in readiness it may be said to embrace the opportunity of such a thoroughfare. But if the certainty and commodiousness of this passage shall be the means of enlarging the intercourse, as is universally admitted, and would infallibly be the case, the amount of the revenue, would, from this increase of travelling, be far greater than what is above stated.

It has invariably happened, that the frequency of intercourse has increased rapidly, wherever the means of communication have been facilitated and improved, as in cases where roads have been opened or completely repaired, canals have been dug, and bridges have been built. This, no doubt, may sometimes depend on the increase of population; but where circumstances have continued nearly the same, an accelerated rate in the frequency of intercourse has been observed. The iron bridge at Sunderland affords a good illustration of this point, where the amount of income formerly received at the ferries, for which the bridge was substituted, has, in the short period of seven years, increased sevenfold. With all the inconveniencies of the passage at Kinghorn, the quantity of fares has nearly doubled in twelve years. This is to be understood exclusive of the rise in the price of the fares; for twelve years ago there were only five large passage-boats, and now there are nine; the whole of which are equally employed as the smaller number at a former period. And as a certain proof of the increased frequency of intercourse at Queensferry, the rent of the toll-bar has increased one third in four years. Now, the rate of increase of the revenue of the passage by the tunnel cannot be less than the latter; and, as will appear afterwards, this is proceeding on the lowest computation, altogether exclusive of the advantages of the ease, safety, and certainty of such a passage, which must infallibly increase the number of travellers of every description.

Let us now take a cursory view of the population, the trade, and manufactures, of those districts to which a commodious passage at Queensferry will be in every respect a capital improvement; and compare this with what has actually taken place in a similar case, but on a much smaller scale, we mean the improved passage by Wearmouth bridge, at Sunderland.

In stating the extent of country to be benefited by the new passage by the tunnel, from its peculiar situation and advantages, we might perhaps fairly include almost the whole of the most populous districts of Scotland, at least in the eastern part of the kingdom. But to keep our statements within moderate bounds, we shall only calculate on the population of those districts on the north side of the Forth, which have been already mentioned, in speaking of the importance and utility of the undertaking, and some of those districts to the south of the Forth, which are in its more immediate vicinity.

If then we take the population of the counties to the north of the Forth, and add to this one half the population of the counties of Edinburgh, Linlithgow, and Lanark, the whole amount will exceed 800,000, who, either immediately, or more indirectly, enjoy the benefits of a free intercourse, by such a passage.—The population of the counties of Northumberland and Durham exceeds somewhat 300,000; but it is not more than one third of this population which derives any advantage from the passage by

by the bridge at Sunderland: for it must be recollected, that it is not like the passage at Queensferry, a general thoroughfare to half the kingdom. The benefits of this passage by the bridge are almost limited to the towns of Sunderland, Newcastle, North and South Shields; and perhaps the number of inhabitants dependent on it for a commodious passage does not greatly exceed 100,000. The extent of trade and manufactures to which a free intercourse of this kind is of importance, is not greater in the vicinity of the bridge, than in the counties contiguous to the Forth, which would derive essential benefit from a certain communication, by means of a tunnel. The necessary intercourse between Glasgow and the manufacturing towns of Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy, Perth, Dundee, and Montrose, will, of itself, form a conspicuous branch of the revenue from this passage. Hence, then, estimating the advantage of both passages, and the consequent revenue by the amount of the population, trade, and manufactures, we may conclude that the revenue of the proposed passage by the tunnel will not increase in a smaller proportion than the increase of the revenue of the bridge at Sunderland.

Now, from the information of Mr Burdon himself, the original and patriotic projector of the bridge, we learn, that the whole amount of rents received at three ferries, was L.410 per annum. Two of the ferries ceased when the bridge was opened, and one still continues to be frequented. But in the year 1796-97, the first year of the bridge, the rent of the remaining ferry was L.400, while that of the bridge was L.1380, making together the sum of L.1780. This remarkable and unexpected increase, shews, in a most striking manner, the advantages of a certain and commodious passage; for to what other circumstance can be ascribed the sudden increase of revenue to more than four times the sum formerly received at the ferries. It could not be owing to an extraordinary increase of population, trade, or manufactures, in the short period of a few months. These must have continued nearly the same. The increased intercourse, therefore, must have arisen from the conveniency and certainty of the improved pas

Taking then all the circumstances connected with the passage by the bridge, and that by the tunnel, into our view, the conclusion seems to be fair and obvious, that the increase of the revenue from the latter will not be in a less proportion than that of the former. But the increase of the revenue of the bridge, as stated above, was more than four times the first year. The sum now received at Queensferry, already calculated, and converted into the toll to be paid at the tunnel, exclusive of L.1000 supposed to be allowed by government, amounts to L. 5091 : 13 : 4. Four times this sum is equal to 20,366l. 13s. 4d. which, proceeding in the same ratio with the increase at Sunderland bridge, will be the revenue from the passage by the tunnel, the first year this passage is opened.

But to avoid even the appearance of over-rating the amount of revenue to be derived from the passage by the tunnel, let us suppose, that it shall be one fifth part less than the sum stated above, or equal only to L.16,000, for the first year. Here then we have at once a revenue which would yield to the adventurers the very ample returns of 10 per cent.

Let us, however, continue the comparison, and see from what has actually taken place at Sunderland bridge, what may be the probable increase of the revenue from the tunnel. In the sixth year after the passage by the bridge was opened, the amount of the revenue, including the rent of the remaining ferry, was equal to L.2177, or an increase of more than one fourth of the revenue of the first year. Should the increase of the revenue from the passage by the tunnel be in the same ratio, the amonnt of the revenue, the sixth year, would be more than 20,000l. But farther, the income of the bridge, including also the rent of the ferry, three years afterwards, or the ninth year after it was opened, amounted to L.2690. To this must be added L.300, which, Mr Burdon says, he has reason to believe, the old tenant would have given rather than relinquish the concern, making the whole revenue for this year equal to L.2990. This then shews an increase of the revenue from the bridge in nine years, of more than two thirds of the first year's revenue. A similar increase of the revenue

from

from the passage by the tunnel, taking the first year's revenue as stated above, at L.16,000, would make that of the year more than L.20,000, a sum which would afford the liberal returns of 15 per cent. P. 70.

From the great extent of the districts separated by the Forth, and from the advancing state of the agriculture and manufactures of Scotland, the writers conceive that there is a much greater scope for augmentation here than in the Sunderland bridge.

The expence of maintaining the passage may be estimated at about 1000l. which would be defrayed by the Government allowance, leaving the tolls entire for the profit of the proprietors. If, however, it should be found practicable to light the passage with hydrogen gas, or inflammable air from pit coal, instead of oil, much of this expence will be saved, and at the same time, its appearance greatly improved in consequence of the brilliancy and copiousness of this kind of light.

The first business, as already estimated, must be to make the necessary previous trials by sounding and boring, which would not exceed L.1000 or L.1500. On the completion of these trials the expence of executing the work may be ascertained with as great precision as in any other mine of a similar length, and the result will then, no doubt, be laid before the subscribers and the public.

The Birds of Scotland, with other poems. By James Grahame, small 8vo. 7s.

THESE poems bear nearly the same character with that of the Sabbath, which has obtained for Mr Grahame so ample a share of celebrity. They display the same delicacy, intimate acquaintance with nature, and the same feeling and amiable cast of mind; and they have also the same faults of languor and extreme minuteness.

In chusing the subject of "the Birds of Scotland," we are not disposed to think the author peculiarly happy. The example of Thomson indeed sufficiently shews that the *manners and characters* of birds afford room for interesting delineations. And as the author himself elegantly observes, "what were the woods, without the woodland song, or the fields uncheared by the aerial notes of the lark." But still they come better in as accessories than as principals; even their diminutive size is apt to attack an idea of ridicule to their occupying so conspicuous a station. In a long poem, it is not easy to atone for the want of human interest; at least this can be done only by taking, like Thomson, a wide range through the objects of nature, and not confining the attention to one particular province.

Virgil indeed has given us a book on bees, which forms one of the finest parts of his writings. The instincts however of this little commonwealth, give them a kind of resemblance to the human species, not to mention the infinitely beautiful narratives which he has, with very little connection indeed, introduced at the end, and which form the chief ornament of the book. The loss is so much the greater, since the blending of imagery with moral feelings appears to us the distinguishing excellency of Mr Grahame's poetry.

We are disposed to ascribe to this circumstance the impression which many seem to entertain of the inferiority of this to Mr Grahame's former poem; for the poetical merit appears to us equal. The following passage may serve as an instance.

Come, Fancy, hover high as eagle's wing:
Bend thy keen eye o'er Scotland's hills and dales;

Float

Float o'er her farthest isles; glance o'er the main;
Or, in this briary dale, flit with the wren,
From twig to twig; or, on the grassy ridge,
Low nestle with the LARK: Thou, simple bird,
Of all the vocal choir, dwell'st in a home
The humblest; yet thy morning song ascends
Nearest to heaven,—sweet emblem of his song *,
Who sung thee wakening by the daisy's side!

With earliest spring, while yet the wheaten blade
Scarce shoots above the new-fallen shower of snow,
The skylark's note, in short excursion, warbles:
Yes! even amid the day-obscuring fall,
I've mark'd his wing winnowing the feathery flakes,
In widely-circling horizontal flight.
But, when the season genial smiles, he towers
In loftier poise, with sweeter fuller pipe,
Chearing the ploughman at his furrow end,—
The while he clears the share, or listening, leans
Upon his paddle staff, and with raised hand,
Shadows his half-shut eyes, striving to scan
The songster melting in the flood of light.

On tree, or bush, no Lark was ever seen:
The daisied lea he loves, where tufts of grass
Luxuriant crown the ridge; there, with his mate,
He founds their lowly house, of withered bents,
And coarsest speargrass; next, the inner work
With finer, and still finer fibres lays,
Rounding it curious with his speckled breast.
How strange this untaught art! it is the gift,
The gift innate of HIM, without whose will
Not even a sparrow falleth to the ground.
And now the assiduous dam her red-specked treasure,
From day to day increases, till complete
The wonted number, blythe, beneath her breast,
She cherishes from morn to eve,—from eve
To morn shields from the dew, that globuled lies
Upon her mottled plumes: then with the dawn
Upsprings her mate, and wakes her with his song.
His song full well she knows, even when the sun,
High in his morning course, is hailed at once
By all the lofty warblers of the sky:
But most his downward veering song she loves;
Slow the descent at first, then, by degrees,
Quick, and more quick, till suddenly the note
Ceases; and, like an arrow-fledge, he darts,
And, softly lighting, perches by her side.

P. 2.

The following contains imagery of a different kind:

From scenes like these, O, Scotland, once again
To thee my weary fancy fondly hies,
And with the EAGLE, mountain-perch'd, alights.
Amid Lochaber's wilds, or dark Glencoe,
High up the pillared mountain's steepest side,
The eagle, from her eyry on the crag
Of over-jutting rock, beholds afar.
Viewing the distant flocks, with ranging eye
She meditates the prey; but waits the time
When seas of mist extend along the vale,
And, rising gradual, reach her lofty shore:
Up then to sunny regions of the air
She soars, and looks upon the white-wreathed summits
Of mountains, seeming ocean isles, then down
She plunges, stretching thro' the hazy deep;
Unseen she flies, and on her playful quarry,
Pounces unseen.

P. 81.

Mr

* Burns.

Mr Grahame has also found means to introduce some episodical allusions to human characters. One of the prettiest is the story of the young man carried off by a press gang; tho', so long as this practice is essential to the defence of these islands, we conceive that no cases of individual suffering can afford a sufficient motive for its discontinuance. The following picture is also pleasing:

But better far truth loves to paint yon house
Of humbler wall, half stone, half turf; with roof
Of mended thatch, the sparrow's warm abode;
The wisp-wound chimney, with its rising wreathe;
The sloping garden, filled with useful herbs,
Yet not without its rose; the patch of corn
Upon the brow; the blooming vetchy ridge.
But most the aged man, now wandering forth,
I love to view; for 'neath yon homely guise
Dwell worth, and simple dignity, and sense,
Politeness natural, that puts to shame
The world's grimace, and kindness crowning all.
Why should the falsely great, the glittering names,
Engross the muse's praise? My humble voice
They ne'er engrossed, and never shall: I claim
The title of the poor man's bard: I dare
To celebrate an unambitious name;
And thine, KILGOUR, may yet some few years live,
When low thy reverend locks mix with the mould. P. 25.

He takes occasion also to make some strictures (in the propriety of which we entirely agree with him) on the reigning mode of embellishing grounds. He says,

There are, who having seen some lordly pile,
Surrounded by a sea of lawn, attempt,
Within their narrow bounds, to imitate
The noble folly. Down the double row
Of venerable elms is hewn. Down crash,
Upon the grass, the orchard trees, whose sprays,
Enwreathed with blooms, and waved by gentlest gales,
Would lightly at the shaded window beat,
Breaking the morning's slumbers with delight,
Vernal delight. The ancient moss-coped wall,
Or hedge impenetrable, interspersed
With holly evergreen, the domicile
Of many a little wing, is swept away;
While, at respectful distance, rises up
The red brick wall, with flues, and chimney tops,
And many a leafy crucifix adorned.
Extends the level lawn with dropping trees
New planted, dead at top, each to a post
Fast collared, culprit like. The smooth expanse
Well cropt, and daily, as the owner's chin,
Not one irregularity presents,
Not even one grassy tuft, in which a lark
Might find a home, and cheer the dull domain:
Around the whole, a line vermicular,
Of melancholy fir, and leaning larch,
And shivering poplar, skirting the way side,
Is thinly drawn. P. 20.

The Second part of this volume consists of "Biblical Pictures," or short Scripture narratives versified. The merit of these is unequal. Mr Grahame's stile wants the rapidity and animation which is requisite for narration, but where imagery only is required they are often very pleasing. The following picture of the Resurrection appears to us possessed of singular beauty:

The setting orb of night her level ray
Shed o'er the land, and, on the dewy sward,
The lengthened shadows of the triple cross
Were laid far stretched,—when in the east arose,

Last

Last of the stars, day's harbinger: No sound
Was heard, save of the watching soldier's foot:
Within the rock-barred sepulchre, the gloom
Of deepest midnight brooded o'er the dead,
The Holy One; but, lo! a radiance faint
Began to dawn around his sacred brow:
The linen vesture seemed a snowy wreath
Drifted by storms into a mountain cave:
Bright, and more bright the circling halo beamed
Upon that face, clothed in a smile benign,
Though yet exanimate. Nor long the reign
Of death; the eyes, that wept for human griefs,
Unclose, and look around with conscious joy:
Yes, with returning life, the first emotion
That glowed in JESUS' breast of love, was joy
At man's redemption now complete; at death
Disarmed; the grave transformed into the couch
Of faith; the resurrection, and the life.
Majestical he rose; trembled the earth;
The ponderous gate of stone was rolled away;
The keepers fell; the angel, awe-struck, shrunk
Into invisibility, while forth
The Saviour of the world walked, and stood
Before the sepulchre, and viewed the clouds
Empurpled glorious by the rising sun.
P. 113.

The volume concludes with "The Rural Calendar," or a description of natural scenery during each successive month of the year. It possesses a great deal of very pleasing imagery.

Mr Grahame's poetry, we rather think, would be improved by possessing more briskness and animation. A languor prevails through the whole which disperses only occasionally. Some passages sink into mere prose. The conversation style in which he indulges, though sometimes not unpleasing, by bringing the author and reader nearer to each other, is at other times carried to a length not altogether suited to the dignity of poetical composition. It would be improved also by being, if we may use the expression, more generalized. For producing any great effect, either in the sublime or pathetic, general expressions have the most powerful effect. They leave the mind at liberty to expatiate. The introduction of minute and familiar objects then clogs the imagination, and prevents it from soaring. In this way we think Mr G. sometimes interrupts the tone of sentiment which he had himself excited, as by the last line in the following passage:

Poor birds! most sad the change! of daisied fields,
Of hawthorn blooming sprays, of boundless air,
With melody replete, for clouds of smoke,
Through which the daw flies cawing steeple high.

At the same time we are quite sensible of the importance of the rule "Nihil invita Minerva." When a poetical style is once formed, its beauties and faults become woven together, so as to render it not easy to remove the one without injuring the other. We shall therefore be extremely well pleased to have more of Mr Grahame's poetry, such as it is.

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The Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal, No. 10. 3s.

Some Observations on the Constitution and Forms of proceeding in the Court of Session in Scotland. With remarks on the Bill now depending in the House of Lords for its reform. By John Peter Grant, Esq. Advocate. 8vo. 3s. 9d.

Observations on the proposed Reform in the Administration of Civil Justice in Scotland. By James Fergusson, Esq. 8vo. 4s.

Scottish *Literary Intelligence.*

MR Gunn, author of a Treatise on the invention and improvement of stringed instruments, has now in the press a curious work, entitled, An Historical enquiry into the Performances on the Harp in the Highlands of Scotland, from the earliest times, to its cessation about the year 1729. Mr G. has prefixed a description, illustrated by three elegant engravings, of two ancient Harps, which have been for several centuries in the Highlands. The whole has been drawn up at the desire of the Highland Society of Scotland.

Mr Hogg, well known for his poetical talents, has in the press a work on the management of Sheep. Mr Hogg, from his professional employments, was led to pay particular attention to this subject, and has travelled over most part of Scotland, with the view of examining it more accurately.

Literay Intelligence, English *and* Foreign.

MR Gell, whose Topography of Troy is already in the hands of every antiquary and admirer of Homer, will shortly favour the public with an account of the interesting Island of Ithaca, its geography, antiquities, natural productions, manners and customs of its present inhabitants, &c. This work, which will form a quarto volume, is to contain a variety of maps, plans, and other engravings, representing the ancient citadel of Ithaca, the city of Bathi, the ports of Polis, Frichias, Maurona, the rock called Homer's School; with an accurate geographical survey, and a general map of this celebrated island.

Le Sage's novel of Gil Blas has, by the concurrent testimony of a century, been determined to be the best production of its kind; and yet we have never possessed any translation of it which has not created disgust by its obscenity and vulgarity. That which bears the name of Dr Smollet is a libel on his literary fame, and it is more than probable that he merely lent his name to it. A new translation has just been finished by Mr Smart, in which the numerous idioms of Le Sage have been carefully rendered, and in which the indelicacies of the original have been softened and adapted to the refined taste of the English public. This new translation will speedily appear, illustrated by one hundred exquisitely beautiful engravings; and will consequently be one of the most elegant books in our anguage.

Sir William Ouseley is preparing for the press an English translation of the celebrated Persian work, intitled *Nozahat al Coloub*, and quoted by Dr Herbelot, M. Se Sacy, and other learned Orientalists, under the name of the Persian Geographer. Sir William had translated, several years ago, different parts of this valuable work; but as none of the manuscripts which he possessed, or had an opportunity of inspecting, were perfect, some wanting the chapter on the rivers of Persia, others the part which describes the mountains and mines, others the sections on the roads and the stages from one city to another, he was induced to defer the publication until

until an accurate and perfect manuscript should be found. Having been fortunate enough to obtain one, he has completed his translation, supplied all the defects, and corrected the errors which abounded in the other copies. From the accuracy with which the Persian geographer describes the distances of places, the roads, rivers, and mountains, as well as the cities, towns, and villages, the errors of all the maps of Persia hitherto published may be corrected, and a multiplicity of names added. To the antiquary and historian, this work will not be less interesting than to the geographer, as it describes the monuments of former ages found in various parts of Iran, or Persia, and contains many curious anecdotes of the ancient sovereigns of that celebrated empire. This work will form a quarto volume, with a map.

In addition to the particulars which we gave last month, relative to the voyage of Lord Valentia, we are now enabled to state, that, after he left the Ganges, he performed the ordinary coasting voyage round the peninsula of India, touching at the principal places, and making some excursions into their vicinity. His Lordship afterwards visited the Red Sea, relative to which, and the parts of Africa adjacent, many new and interesting facts may be expected in his forth-coming work. We have already seen a map of that sea, prepared by Mr Arrowsmith, under the direction of his Lordship, from which we augur favourably of the general value and importance of his observations.

The Travels of Mr Heriot through Upper and Lower Canada, containing particulars of the new colonization of the former of these important provinces, will appear in the last decade of March, and will challenge public curiosity, not less for the novelty of its information, than for the beauty and variety of its embellishments.

A new edition, being the fifth, is in the press, of Dr Bree's Enquiry into Disordered Respiration, a work which has continued to establish itself in the public estimation so as now to rank among our medical classics.

A new work on Conveyancing, consisting of a collection of modern precedents, with notes and illustrations, and a practical introduction on the language and structure of conveyances, will speedily be published by John Turner, Esq. of the Middle Temple.

The Townley Marbles are now placed in the apartment prepared for them in the British Museum, and will, we hope, be soon accessible to the public.

Mr Belfour, the translator of the Musica and Fabulas Literarias of Yriarte, is about to publish a new and improved edition of Jarvis's version of Don Quixotte, embellished with superb engravings, and illustrated by notes, historical, critical, and literary, from the pens of Mayans, Bowle, Vicente de los Rios, Pellicer, and other able commentators. Mr Belfour proposes to add remarks on the life and writings of Cervantes; anecdotes of his cotemporaries; and particulars of the manners, customs, and state of literature of the time in which he lived.

Dr Scott is preparing a new edition, revised, and translated from the Arabic MS. brought over by Mr Montague, of the Arabian Night's Entertainments; with notes illustrative of the customs and manners of the country. The additional tales, which have never been translated, are said to be as interesting as those with which we are acquainted. The translations which have been published in this country, have been made from the French version of M. Galland, who trusted to a verbal translator, being himself ignorant of the Arabic language.

Dr J. E. Smith proposes shortly to publish an Introduction to Botany, in one volume octavo, with a few plates, intended for the use of female, as well as male students of that delightful science, and divested of every thing that might be deemed exceptionable.

The venerable Bishop of Dromore will soon publish his edition of Surrey's Poems, with a glossary.

Mr Sotheby has finished a poem on the subject of Saul, in eight books, in blank verse.

Mr S. Woodburne has in a state of forwardness a hundred views of churches in the neighbourhood of London, with descriptions deduced from the best authorities.

Dr Percy, nephew of the bishop, is preparing a fourth volume of the Reliques of Ancient English Poetry.

Mr

Mr Wordsworth, author of Lyrical Ballads, has ready for publication the Orchard Pathway, a collection of poems.

Some Posthumous Juvenile Works of Mrs Chapone are announced, containing her Letters to Mr Richardson, in her 18th year, on the subject of Parental Authority and Filial Obedience; her Correspondence with Mrs Elizabeth Carter; and some Fugitive Pieces, never before published.

The Rev. G. S. Faber, author of a Dissertation on the Prophecies, is preparing for the press a work on the Restoration of Israel and the Destruction of Antichrist.

An enlarged edition of Lord Orford's Royal and Noble Authors, is prepared for publication, by Mr Park, the editor of Harrington's *Nugæ Antiquæ*. The work is continued to the present period, and is to contain newly-engraved portraits of the principal personages, with selected specimens of their literary productions.

Mr Cooper, of Golden Square, has in the press a work likely to prove highly useful to the profession at large, and particularly to students, under the title of First Lines of the Practice of Surgery.

A third edition, much improved, of the Romances of Mr D'Israeli, will appear early in March.

A translation of Dante, by Mr Howard, is in the press.

Mr William Stewart Rose will shortly publish *Partonepex de Blois*, a poem in three books, with notes from the French of M. le Grand, and engravings, from paintings by Smirke, in which the costume of the time has been an object of attention.

Dr Mant is printing a volume of Lectures on the Occurrences of Passion Week.

Mr Bryant's celebrated work on the Mythology of the Ancients, is reprinting.

An Hebrew Bible, with an English version placed literally and interlineally over it, is about to be published, as the first step towards forwarding the education of Jewish children, and teaching the sacred language with the same facility and accuracy as any other tongue.

An interesting tale, descriptive of the manners of the fifteenth century, written by the late Mr Strutt, is preparing for publication.

Mr Prince Hoare has undertaken to conduct a periodical work, to be called The Artist, consisting of a Series of Essays on various Subjects of Science and Art; written by men of eminent professional ability, on topics relative to their respective studies, and by other persons peculiarly conversant with those subjects. Each essay to bear the signature of its author, and a number to appear every Saturday.

At a moment when the attention of the public is drawn to the subject by the senatorial labours of Mr Whitbread, it may be proper to record, that an institution has lately been formed in Albion-street, Blackfriars Bridge, called TRANQUILLITY; on the plan of an *Economical Bank*, to afford persons of all ages, trades, and descriptions, an opportunity of providing for their future wants by the payment of small sums, in a way calculated to secure to each contributor, or to his widow and children, the benefit of his own economy: and also for enabling youth of both sexes to deposit their small savings, to accumulate until the time of their respective marriages, to be then returned to them with interest, and proportionate premiums. From our knowledge of some of the parties concerned in this establishment, we are warranted in recommending it to the notice and countenance of the public.

The Irish language continues to be spoke at present in Louth, Meath, and Westmeath: in Dublin, Kildare, Wicklow, and in the King's and Queen's counties, very few speak Irish; in the southwest part of Carlow, a considerable proportion speak Irish; in Kilkenny it prevails greatly; in Wexford, it is very little used in the south-east part of the county, but is pretty general in the north-west. In all the counties of Munster, the Irish language prevails, if we except the large towns, their immediate neighbourhoods, and some of the country along the coast. It is more prevalent in Connaught than in the west of Ireland: in this province the gentlemen find it essential to acquire the language, in order to deal with the peasantry without an interpreter. In Ulster, there is a great proportion of Irish speakers. Cavan and Monaghan contain

tain many; Tyrone about half its inhabitants; Donegal, more than half; Armagh and Down, a few; Antrim, a few along the eastern coast; Derry, a few in the mountains to the south-west; Fermanagh, scarcely any.

Taking the average of the rise on labour and other articles throughout England, between the years 1770 and 1804, it appears that the increased expences per cent. will stand as under:

Labour in winter	37
Labour in summer	38
Labour in harvest	44
Reaping wheat	54
Mowing barley	58
Threshing wheat	55
Threshing barley	51
ARTISANS.	
Blacksmith	35
Carpenter	50
Mason	47
Thatcher	45
Collar-maker	41
Rent	39
Tithes	48
Parish taxes	89
Acre of turnips	38
Acre of barley	39
Acre of wheat	36
Manure	62

The whole averaging a rise of 52 per cent. in the fourteen years.

The average rise throughout Scotland is,

Rent	73
Rates	69
Labour	56
Artisans	65
Manure	89

Making an average rise of 70 per cent.

The following averages, lately published by the board of Agriculture, shew the number of cattle and sheep annually sold in Smithfield:

	Cattle.	*Sheep.*
1732 to 1740	83,906	564,650
1741 — 1749	74,194	559,892
1750 — 1758	75,334	623,091
1759 — 1767	83,432	615,328
1768 — 1776	89,362	627,805
1777 — 1785	99,285	687,588
1786 — 1794	108,075	707,456

The weight of bullocks about 100 years ago, compared with that of the present time are,

	In 1700	In 1800
Oxen	lbs. 370	800
Calves	50	140
Sheep	28	80
Lambs	18	50

So that Smithfield market has, principally within fifty years, doubled the weight of flesh sold in it.

The number of horses for which duty is paid, is 1,178,000. Their annual consumption of food, reckoned by the produce of acres, are for

	Acres ea.	*Acres.*
200,000 pleasure horses	5	1,000,000
30,000 cavalry	5	150,000
1,200,000 husbandry	4	4,800,000
350,000 colts, mares, &c.	3	1,050,000
1,780,000		7,900,000

The number of acres of land necessary to subsist 8,000,000 of people in England, according to the present mode of living, is estimated as follows:

For bread corn	3,000,000
For barley	1,500,000
For potatoes, &c.	500,000
For grass land, for meat	12,000,000
For grass land, for dairy	4,000,000
Total acres	21,000,000

Supposing other consumers to require 5,000,000 of acres, this makes 26,000,000, which is about the quantity of land in cultivation.

There are few countries in Europe where vaccination has made such a rapid and general progress as in the Danish dominions. The committee which was appointed to facilitate its propagation receive every day intelligence of its being extended to the most distant parts of the monarchy, the islands of Ferroe, Iceland, and even Greenland. In 1802, the number of persons vaccinated was only 6,849; but in 1805, it amounted to 23,185.

The reputation of Dr Gall, the craniologist, seems to be on the decline in Germany. At Munster, Cologne, Franckfort, and other places, he was not able to collect a sufficient number of subscribers for a course of lectures; and his system is now deemed in his own, as well as other countries, one of the most absurd and visionary that ever presented itself to the credulity of mankind.

Captain Hogelmuller, of Vienna, has published the following interesting address

dress to the friends of the arts and sciences: "By the favour of his royal highness the Archduke Charles, I shall be enabled, at the end of November 1807, to set out on a journey to the East, provided with the necessary instruments and attendants. Though the natural history of the horse is the principal object of this tour, yet I am ready to use my best endeavours to procure answers to such questions for the improvement of natural history in general, geography, philology, technology, archæology, numismatics, &c. as men of learning and societies may send me before the end of August. First travelling through Hungary, Transylvania, and Buckowina, to the Ukraine, I shall embark at Odessa for Constantinople, and proceed from that metropolis to Aleppo in Syria.

Much has been lately said and written in Germany concerning the art of memory, a study which also begins to be cultivated in France. On this subject the celebrated astronomer M. de Lalande bears testimony to the following facts: I have witnessed," says he, "the extraordinary effects produced on the memory by the method of M. de Fenaigle; and as he took the pains to explain it to me, I was convinced that it could not fail to produce such effects. It is a fact equally important and extraordinary, that one of his pupils is able to repeat, in any order you please, and without the least mistake, a table of fifty cities in all parts of the world, with the degrees of longitude and latitude in which they are situated; whereas I, who have for sixty years devoted my attention to geography, cannot repeat four of them. The same is the case with chronology: in the *Annuaire* I have inserted 240 dates from ancient and modern history, and M. de Fenaigle's scholars repeat them all. I do not think that the ablest historiographer could tell ten of them. What an astonishing aid in the study of geography and history!"

A *Raccolta dei Classici Italiani*, or a Collection of Italian Classics, has appeared at Milan, in 18 volumes. The first eight volumes contain the *Istorie fiorentine di Giovanne Villani, cittadino fiorentino*. Volumes 9 to 13, contain a collection of the *Opere di messer Angelo Firenzuolo, fiorentino*. The 14th volume contains an hitherto unpublished work, under the title of *Tratto del governo della famiglia, di Angelo Pandolfini, fiorentino*. The 15th, 16th and 17th vols. consist of a complete and correct edition of the historical works of Francesco Guicciardini. In the 18th volume are given the first two days of the *Decamerone di Bocaccio*.

A translation of Voltaire's Henriade into Portuguese, is announced by the Marquez de Bellas, formerly ambassador extraordinary at the court of London, and now at the head of the judicial department in his own country.

The Abbate Sestini has undertaken a complete System of Geographical Numismatics, in twelve folio volumes, to contain a description of the most interesting coins and medals and antiquity, and of all the cabinets of medals in Europe, both public and private, of which the author can obtain a description.

The same Abbate is about to publish the ninth volume of his *Lettere e Dissertazioni Numismatiche*; to contain the description of the Greek medals in the cabinet of Gotha.

Celestial Phenomena *for* April 1807.

Wednesday, April 1st.

THE planet VENUS is situated in longitude 1^s..3°..21′, and latitude 16 minutes South. Her declination is 12°..24′ North, and she comes to the meridian at 20 minutes after one o'clock in the afternoon. Venus is at present the evening star, and appears in the West after sun-set.

Tuesday, April 7th.

The longitude of MARS is at present 5^s..3°..24′, and his latitude 3°..2′ North. His declination is 13°..6′ North, and he comes to the meridian about 20 minutes after nine o'clock in the evening.

Friday, April 10th.

The planet MERCURY will arrive at his inferior conjunction with the Sun at 32 minutes after seven o'clock in the evening.

Sat.

Saturday, April 11th.

JUPITER will be in conjunction with the star marked ιϱ *Capricorni*. The latitude of the star being 28′..36″ South, and that of Jupiter 24′..40″ South, the nearest distance of their centres will be 3′..56″, and the planet will pass to the north of the star.

Monday, April 13th.

SATURN is at present situated in longitude 7ˢ..8°..18′, and latitude 2°..41′ North. His declination is 11°..45′ South, and he souths about 48 minutes after twelve o'clock in the evening.

Wednesday, April 15th.

The planet MARS will be stationary in longitude 5ˢ..3°..6′..12″.

Thursday April 16th.

The MOON will eclipse the star marked 2 ϰ *Cancri*. The occultation will begin, or the star will immerge behind the dark limb of the Moon at 40 minutes past seven o'clock in the evening, its distance from the Moon's centre being 1 minute South; and after continuing eclipsed for the space of 1ʰ..11′, it will emerge from behind the enlightened limb of the Moon at 51 minutes after 8 o'clock, when it is situated 4½ minutes North of the Moon's centre.

Sunday, April 19th.

The GEORGIUM SIDUS will be in opposition to the Sun at eight o'clock in the morning, in longitude 6ˢ..28°..19′..22″, and latitude 34 minutes North. His declination is 10°..21′ South, and he souths exactly at 12 o'clock at night.

Tuesday, April 21st.

The SUN will enter TAURUS at 2 minutes after one o'clock in the morning, and his longitude will then be exactly one sign.

On the same day, at 47 minutes after three o'clock in the morning, the 2d and 4th satellites of Jupiter will be in conjunction on the Eastern side of his disc. The 1st and 3d are on the same side at a greater distance, the 3d being farthest from the planet.

Thursday, April 23d.

The planet VENUS will be in conjunction with A *Tauri*. The nearest approach of their centres will be 28 minutes, and the planet will pass to the south of the star.

Friday, April 24th.

The planet MERCURY will be stationary in longitude 0ˢ..13°..33′..12″.

Saturday, April 25th.

The planet JUPITER is situated in longitude 10ˢ 10°..9′, and latitude 28 minutes South. His declination is 18°..9′ South, and he souths at 6ʰ..33′ in the morning.

Monday, April 27th.

VENUS will be in conjunction with the star 2ϰ *Tauri*. The distance of their centers at the moment of conjunction will be 26 minutes, and the planet will pass to the North of the star.

Tuesday, April 28th.

The planet SATURN will be in opposition to the SUN at 47 minutes after nine o'clock in the morning.

Wednesday, April 29th.

The *first* and *third* satellites of Jupiter will be in conjunction on the Eastern side of his disc at 47 minutes after three o'clock in the morning. The *second* and *fourth* are situated on the other side of Jupiter, the fourth being farthest from the planet.

Edinburgh, March 20. 1807.

Memoirs of the Progress of MANUFACTURES. CHEMISTRY, SCIENCE, *and the* FINE ARTS.

A NEW vegetable principle has been discovered by M. Vauquelin, in the *asparagus sativus* of Lin-

Linnæus. It is crystallizable like the salts, but is neither an acid nor a neutral salt, and is not affected by any of the reagents generally employed to ascertain the presence and the nature of the salts dissolved in water.—It appears also from the experiments of the same chemist, that there exists in the juice of asparagus another saccharine principle, which seems to have an analogy with manna.

A thrashing machine, to be driven by two men and a boy, has been invented by Mr John Auld, Whitburn, Scotland. It is driven with the hand assisted by a crank and footboard, so that the men who drive it, act by their weight upon the footboard, as well as by the force which they exert at the winch. The winch is connected with a large upright wheel, about 6 feet in diameter, which gives motion to the thrashing drum, by means of a band and pulley; and the motion of the machinery is equalised by a large fly, fixed upon the axis of the thrashing drum.

Mr Joseph Stevens, the inventor of a simple gasometer, has invented a compound gasometer, for purposes where uniform pressure is essential, by the application of the hydrostatic regulator. A drawing and description of this useful contrivance will be found in the Phil. Magazine, N°. 105. p. 34.

We mentioned in a former number that M. Morichini had discovered the fluoric acid in the enamel of the fossil grinder of the elephant, and likewise in the enamel of the human teeth. M. Guy Lussac has found the same acid both in the fresh and fossil ivory, and in the tusks of the boar. These experiments have been repeated by Messrs Fourcroy and Vauquelin, who have obtained fluoric acid from tusks and teeth altered by their remaining in the earth, but not from fresh tusks or teeth, nor even from those which, though fossil, had not been altered.

The method of imitating the alum of Rome, discovered by Messrs Clement and Desormes, has been so succesful, that immense quantities of it have been sold for true Roman alum. This method consists merely in calcining and recrystallizing the alum, to take its superabundant acid. It was asserted, however, by M. Curaudeau, that it is still necessary to oxygenate to the maximum, the little iron which the alum generally contains. It appears from the more recent experiments of Messrs Thenard and Roard, that a single millieme of iron influences the effect of alum in dyeing. The effects of the iron may be removed by oxygenating it, which renders it insoluble in the acid, and makes the alum thus purified equal in every respect to the alums of Rome.

An autocratic clock, very useful in breweries, distilleries, &c. has been invented by Mr Joseph Steevens. A drawing and description of it may be seen in the Phil. Mag. N°. 104. p. 314.

It appears from the botanical researches of Turpin, that the umbilical, or the part by which the grains adhere to the fruit, besides the passage that transmits the vessels that come from the trunk and nourish the grain, also gives passage to other channels, which descend from the pistil, shoot out opposite the small root of the embrion, and carry to it the fecundating principle by the stigma of the powder of the stamina. On all the grains there is seen a small aperture called *mycropila* by M. Turpin, and to which he attributes this function.

Edinburgh,
24th March, 1807.

POETRY.

Poetry.

SONG.

AIR,—"*My only joe an' dearie o'.*"

WHAN I think on my youthfu' prime,
My only joe an' dearie o',
I wish again the happy time
That glides awa' sae cheerie o'.
But Oh! nae earthly change can bring
Again to me youth's joyfu' spring,
Nae mair quite free o' care I'll sing
My only joe an' dearie o'.

O youth, you little prize, I ween,
Your days o' joy sae cheerie o',
Whan pleasure's blinkin' in your een,
And nae cauld care to fear you o'.
For still you think, whanman you're grown,
Far greater bliss your life will crown,
Whan you will fear nae mother's frown,
Nor father mak' you eerie o'.

'Twas sae wi' me, weel weel I mind,
Whan I to you did love disclose,
I counted joys, left cares behind,
You blush'd consent as sweet's the rose.
O! but it was a happy day,
Whan Cupid felt fam'd Hymen's sway,
An' love's sweet impulse made us gay,
My only joe an' dearie o'.

E'en still I think I much enjoy,
Whan I look back on youthfu' days,
Then pleasure knew nae base alloy,
I bask'd in hope's delusive rays;
Nae care-fraught cloud did intervene,
Anticipation smil'd serene,
But oh! how fled, how chang'd the scene,
My only joe an' dearie o'.

Yet though we're fasht wi' *care* the now,
Soon soon the storm will cease to blow,
Then we to earth will bid adieu,
An' to a better world will go.
Meantime, let's calmly run our race,
Until we reach that happy place,
Whar' care dare never shew its face,
My only joe an' dearie o'.

Dean, 23d Feb. 1807. } *J. M'D.*

VERSES,

On being called to the country on the death of a beloved sister, 25th Jan. 1807.

ABODES of my fathers, to memory dear,
To your once pleasing shelter I fly,
I come not my false faded prospects to chear,
For the days which are gone, to my fancy appear,
From the red eye of Pity demanding a tear,
From the bosom of Friendship a sigh.

Though your beauties are scatter'd by wild Winter's hand,
Ye woodlands, I grieve not for you;
For borne on the clouds, by the mild zephyrs fann'd,
See Spring, still attentive to nature's command,
Prepares her green mantle to fling o'er the land,
And each faded glory renew.

But, alas! when will Spring her mild influence shed,
On the much-mourn'd maid I deplore,
Will she order the red rose of beauty to spread,
And to blush on the pale cheek from whence it has fled;
Ah! when will she rise from her comfortless bed,
The joys of the past to restore?

O yes! the grand prospect now beams on my sight,
She will rise on some fair future day,
When the long brooding darkness shall blaze into light,
The signal for millions to hasten their flight
To the regions of happiness, love and delight,
Where friendship shall never decay.

W. M. F.

Molle meum levibus cor est violabile telis,
Illa tamen causa est, cur ego læsus amo.
OVID.

FULL long with undistinguish'd flame,
My heart each fair could gain,
Edina's boast assembled there,
With equal sway were wont to reign,

But when Euphemia, blooming fair,
First caught my ravish'd heart,
Pleas'd with the maid excelling far,
I felt a new, a strange delight.

Dwelling on thee, my thrilling heart
Each rapture own'd so true,
For with a bliss supreme, my mind
Could fondly think alone on you.

Ten thousand loves divine appear,
In those bewitching eyes,

Where-

Where Cupid shafts unerring hoards,
And basking, sweetly playful, lies.

How ting'd those blooming downy cheeks
With colour all their own,
Excelling still the beauteous pride
Of fragrant roses newly blown.

Whilst I, my Tavy, rapt'rous gaz'd,
Admiring every part,
Grac'd with a mind superior too,
You stole into my melting heart.

But if your heart be not so free,
If that another share,
Oh! since the hope must not be mine,
Thy potent smiles, my charmer, spare.

J. A.

TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF LORD NELSON.

Sung at the Theatre-Royal, with unbounded applause, by MR SHAW.

THE greatest hero is no more
That ever grac'd Britannia's shore;
Yet o'er the deep her flags unfurl'd,
The pride and envy of the world.
Rule Britannia: Britannia rule the waves!
Britons never shall be slaves.

From Nelson's ashes Nelsons rise,
T' exalt her glories to the skies:
To him they close alliance claim,
In matchless deeds, and deathless fame!
Rule Britannia, &c.

What tho' a wretch, with swelling pride,
Affects a prostrate world to ride!
Let him but dare to ride the sea;
The tyrant falls,—the world is free!
Rule Britannia, &c.

Nations unbless'd may melt away,
Debas'd by proud tyrannic sway;
But Britain, still, by Heav'n's decree,
Shall flourish, happy, great, and free!
Rule Britannia, &c.

No ruthless tyrants shall controul
Thy free-born energy of soul;
These shall their impotence but show,
And work thy glory in their woe.
Rule Britannia, &c.

SIR,

THERE are many evils under the sun, of which Solomon, in all his wisdom, takes no notice. Indeed that which I refer to is of a nature to render it probable, that his court had not the misfortune to be visited with it. Old Maids were, if I mistake not, in the days of Solomon, a rare commodity. Though I deny any antipathy whatever to maids, yet I love peace, friendship, and society. I relish that social intercourse of words and deeds which binds us together. But, to my no small mortification, I have, for sometime past, been robbed of that pleasure. Nor is my case singular, for, to the best of my knowledge, many of your readers are in a similar predicament. A creature, 'ycleped a Learned Old Maid, has, by what means I know not, made its way into our social circles. Social that were, till dissertations on the Greek digamma, and eulogies on the genius and learning of the ancients, put an end to our peace. Farewell, now, the general topic, the smart reply, the flash of wit, and the flow of soul. Instead of these we have a petticoat orator stuck into an arm chair, and belching out its own poetic rhapsodies, mixed with quotations from the deathless sons of Verse. This, Sir, is a serious, and no imaginary evil, and you will oblige many of your readers, by holding up to this Lady the following mirror. I pledge my honor for its truth, and remain, Sir,

Yours,

A Student in Medicine.

A CHARACTER

ALL languages she reads, with learned eye,
The Roman, German, Hindostan and Greek;
Nor of her treasured languages is shy,
But ever and anon will *learned* speak,
As naturally as injured pig does squeak;
And then she swells, and looks so mighty big,
(Like straining frog in some unhealthy creek,)
And shoots her leathern neck, and shakes her leg,
From every sitter by some eulogy to beg.
All little things she deems beneath her care,
And silent sits at dinner or at tea,
Filling with maiden grace an armed chair,
(Full maiden like, I ween, and chaste is she,
As maids at fifty-five are wont to be,)
Till roused by fell Contention's iron sway.
Adieu to social talk, in company;
Ten thousand asses would not raise a bray
So full of terror dread, and deaf'ning wild affray.
In silence oft', she heaves the deepened sigh,
For woman's fate, and man's relentless sway,
Lamenting such as wedlock's bands do tie;
Ah, that they ere had known a bridal day!
But rather deemed in privacy to stay,
And pass their days in independent ease,
Than every nobler sentiment betray;
And for the paltry luxury,—to please,
Forego that maiden paradise,—to *teaze*.

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PRO-

Proceedings of Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Wednesday, Feb. 4.

African Slave Trade.

COUNSEL were called in, pursuant to order, when Mr Plomer and Mr Dallas attended in behalf of the West India merchants; Mr Alexander for the merchants of Liverpool; Mr Scarlet for the merchants and planters of the Islands of Jamaica and Trinidad; and Mr Clarke, on the part of the Corporation of Liverpool, and the Trustees of the Dock of that Port.

Mr Alexander, for the merchants of Liverpool, first addressed their Lordships, and concluded with requesting that witnesses might be called in.

Lord Grenville said, that the simple inquiry was, whether, in the present situation of things, it was expedient to hear the depositions of witnesses. In his opinion, there could be no ground for this mode of proceeding. This was not the first time, or the first year, that the inquiry was made before their Lordships; it was the *twentieth year*. Could any individual Peer suppose, that, to enable him to decide on the principle of this Bill, it was expedient to examine how far the local interests of the ship-owners of Liverpool were concerned. Their Lordships were not now to determine, if a few more or a few less ships were devoted to this commerce, but to wipe away the disgrace of this country, by the direction thus given to the industry and talents of British merchants.

Lord Eldon was willing to admit, that, in the instance now before their Lordships, the examination of witnesses would not be necessary; but he was anxious to enter his protest against any determination not to hear evidence in a future stage of the proceeding.

Lord Hawkesbury concurred that no witnesses need at present be called.

Mr Clarke, *Mr Plomer*, and *Mr Scarlet*, were then called and heard.

Thursday, Feb. 5.

The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Bill for Abolishing the Slave Trade having been read,

Lord Grenville rose and repeated the arguments against this Trade. The Abolition of the African Slave Trade was, in his opinion, indispensible towards the safety of the British Empire, which had unfortunately borne too great a share in this pernicious and immoral traffic. In this trade of blood and of treachery we were not merely accessaries but parties; we had lent our sanction and countenance to the most flagrant system that had ever disgraced any period of the civilized world. He knew not in what school of law, religion, or morality, the principle was to be found which constituted that to be a just proceeding in one nation, the manifest tendency of which was to inflict the grossest injustice upon the inhabitants of another country. If there were any such principle, he would take leave to enter his protest against it, as sapping the foundation of all moral virtue. It was said that it was impossible to keep up the population in the West India Islands, but by fresh importations. This subject had been examined, and the very reverse had been proved. Why should the laws of nature be inverted in the West Indies? Why should that great principle, "increase and multiply," be rendered inoperative there, and there alone: "Shew me (said his Lordship) a country where the population is on the decrease, and I will undertake to prove, that it is owing to something else than the influence of climate; that it is, in fact, owing to a moral, and not to a physical cause." If there was, therefore, any of the West India Islands in which there was a rapid decay of population, he would say, that there it would be found the labouring classes were greatly overworked. But so far from their being a decrease in the Negro po-

pulation in the West Indies, the contrary was ascertained to be the fact. It was now fourteen, or rather near twenty years ago, since the subject was examined in all its details, and minutely investigated by the greatest Political Arithmetician this or perhaps any other country ever produced; he meant the late Mr Pitt, that illustrious Statesman whose name he could never mention without the highest veneration!—He proved to the House of Commons, from the answers of the planters and other documents, that though the population might have decreased in former periods in the Island of Jamaica, yet that decrease was gradually diminished as it approached nearer the present time. At different periods the decrease, as he proved undeniably, diminished successively from three and a half to two and a half, and one three-fourth per cent. until at last it was reduced to less than one per cent. He proved, that with respect to the waste of population, the allegations of the planters were totally unfounded, and that these false assertions were not so much the consequences of their ignorance, as of their never having given themselves the trouble to inquire into the fact. From 1788, the period of the inquiry, to the present time, near twenty years had elapsed, and, upon the average of the last three years, it was found that no decrease had taken place, or that, if any, it was so inconsiderable as not to be worth the mentioning. This was the case in Jamaica;—and in Dominica the result was found to be the same.—It is said, that if the importation of new negroes be prohibited, the old population would not be equal to cultivate the islands. He was persuaded of the contrary. He was convinced that all the parts of the old islands, which were at present in cultivation, could be maintained in that state without the necessity of bringing one more negro from Africa. For what purpose, then, was it that such efforts were made to continue this trade? It was for the purpose of making the uncultivated parts as productive as those which were in culture, a practice pregnant with much immediate embarrassment, and, as he feared, it would prove ultimate ruin to the planter. If the planter had now to struggle with the difficulties resulting from a great diminution in the price of the article which he cultivated, a diminution in a great measure to be attributed to the breaking up of new lands, it was evident that these difficulties must be increased by furnishing him with the means of further reducing its price. Where would be the policy to encourage him to import new African slaves, for the purpose of enabling him to continue a destructive rivalship, where even success must terminate in ruin? According to the present scale of population, it would take no less than two or three centuries to import slaves enough into Jamaica, to bring the uncultivated parts of that island into culture. It would require as long a period to introduce slaves enough into Trinidad, to break up the new lands in that island; and for these purposes not less than a million more of African slaves would be necessary in each of these islands. He wished to bring this picture before the most hardened slave-dealer, before the most inhuman tyrant that ever exercised despotic sway between the decks of a slave ship; he would wish to present to him two millions of Africans, torn from their families and their dearest ties, doomed to a cruel death, or, what is more revolting to human nature, to spend a miserable existence in a state worse than death, and he would be glad to see whether his feelings, callous as they might be, would be proof against such a representation. And yet this was the boon which the Legislature of Jamaica asks from a British House of Lords; nothing more, forsooth, than the privilege of dragging the unhappy natives of Africa from their homes, their ties, their dearest relations, and of hunting them down for five centuries longer. But this was a boon which he trusted a British House of Lords would never grant. No; he trusted that the term of the abolition of this nefarious traffic was at length arrived, and that both the Legislature and those who were concerned in it had met at a certain point at last. One of the great dangers of abolishing the trade, as urged either at the bar or in common conversation, was that resulting from the example which St Domingo offered. He would even say, that the example of what had taken place in St Domingo most powerfully recommended the immediate abolition of the trade. If they wished

wished to guard against insurrection in Jamaica, let them take the advice of Mr Long, an eminent planter himself, and the historian of the island. What did he assign as the causes of the frequent rebellions in that island? He proved that nine times out of ten they were entirely owing to the newly-imported negroes. The Creole negroes, who were in some degree domesticated, who had occasional access to the family, in general continued firm in their attachment, while the African negro, goaded by the resentment of his injuries and the sense of his sufferings, rushed into rebellion. It was true, that in the scenes which had taken place at St Domingo, it was not newly-imported negroes who were the principal actors; but let any one consider the cause of that insurrection, and he would see that it was not the consequence of emancipation, as was falsely supposed, but that it was produced by the most foul and scandalous breach of promise. It was produced by the unjust, inhuman measure, of recalling that freedom which had been granted to slaves. If we wished to guard against similar insurrection in our own islands, it was not by importing fresh cargoes of slaves every year that it was to be effected, but by making friends of the negro population which was already there; and this he trusted a British Parliament would do, by putting the planter under the necessity of well-treating his slaves. Lord Seaforth had detailed three most shocking instances of the murder of negroes, and when he pressed the Legislature of Barbadoes to alter the law in this respect, how was his proposal received? How was the proposition of the King's representative, and the recommendation of his Majesty received? Why, with contumely and insult! They not only refused to constitute the wanton *killing of a negro, murder*, but in their language, in their debates, they laboured to repel what they termed the insult of such a proposal. One of these murders was perpetrated by a white militiaman returning from exercise, who, in the most wanton and barbarous manner, ran his bayonet into an unoffending negro woman, who was accidentally passing by. When he was reproached with his crime, and threatened with punishment, he triumphantly exclaimed—"Punished! What, for killing a negro! A white man punished for killing a negro! just as a brutal drayman in the street might exclaim, if reproached by a passenger for severely chastising his horse. And was it from such persons, and a Legislature protecting such persons, that we were to look for such regulations for bettering the condition of the unfortunate negro, as would preclude the necessity of abolishing the inhuman and pernicious traffic, which it was the object of the Bill to destroy? After combating every argument which had ever been urged against the abolition—after shewing that if the trade was abandoned by Great Britain and America, it could not possibly be taken up by any other nation—his Lordship concluded with a brilliant encomium upon the talents, eloquence, virtue, and perseverance of Mr Wilberforce, to whom, he observed, millions unborn would be indebted for this great blessing.

His Royal Highness the *Duke of Clarence* was glad to find that the negroes now employed in the laborious business of our colonial establishments were not to be included in the present arrangements, but were to be permitted to fulfil their important duties. He was pleased also that it was admitted that those at present engaged in the African trade had engaged in their commercial pursuits under the sanction of Parliament. Much had been misapprehended on the nature and circumstances of the traffic itself, by persons who had no local knowledge on the subject. With respect to himself, the habits of his life had given him opportunities of knowing the facts from the best authorities; and he had visited every one of the islands, where he had conversed with some of the most skilful and experienced persons on their culture, produce, climate, and population. It was a little singular, that after exhibiting a style of declamatory accusation against the Planters, not unusual on this subject, the Noble Lord had adduced but one or two insulated examples of cruelty towards the negroes to support all his broad and confident assertions—the truth was, that human nature was much the same in every country, and that the Planters, as well as their Lordships, had hearts sensible to the calamities of their fellow beings It was useless to resign this trade for other

other nations would pursue it if we abandoned it, and under circumstances much less conducive to the comfort of the Africans; the idea then of abolishing the trade was nugatory and absurd; it might be transferred into worse hands, but it would still be persevered in with all the distresses, and many more, which the enemies of this commerce were so fond of detailing. The situation of St Domingo was a warning not to try experiments unnecessarily: the population of this rich country has been reduced since the insurrection from 250,000 to 100,000 souls; and whether the same horrors were to be experienced in the adjacent islands, in consequence of these new projects, was yet a matter of uncertainty. Among the effects of such measures must be, that his Majesty, by the multitude of seizures (for the whole navy of England could not prevent the trade), would become the greatest slave merchant in the world. Another consequence would be, that the maritime strength of the nation would be destroyed; for on the African Trade, more than on any other resource, depended the supply of our Navy, which had rendered the name of Britain glorious in every part of the world.—A third result would be, that the revenues of the State would be largely diminished, from which the supplies for that navy must be drawn. Many illustrious characters had been mentioned, who had not only approved, but contributed to the establishment of this commerce; from the circle of his own immediate acquaintance, he could add several others who concurred in the same sentiment, and who were an ornament to their profession and to their country; among these he might name a late gallant Admiral, with whom he was allied in the closest intimacy (Lord Nelson) and who had received, on numerous occasions, the enthusiastic applause of a grateful people. Should the bill pass, he had no doubt but the supporters of it would soon regret their precipitation: and if the present Ministers continued so long in office, he entertained no doubt that in three or four years they would retrace their steps, and apply to Parliament that the trade might be again resumed. But be the event what it might in other respects, to his mind it was perfectly clear, that without this trade the West Indies must be lost to Britain; and without the West Indies, not only the dignity and prosperity of the nation was gone, but its very existence as an Independent Empire.

His Royal Highness the *Duke* of *Gloucester* perfectly coincided with a Noble Lord near him (Lord Grenville) on the injustice and impolicy of the African trade. He was ready to meet the question on either ground, whether the objections were to be founded on the inhumanity or on the expediency of this commerce, as it affected the mercantile interests of the country. It was evident that the population had been greatly obstructed by severity; for the Maroons, it was well known, doubled their numbers in a period of about thirty-three years; and there was no reason to suppose that the same increase would not take place with the slaves, if it were not obstructed by artificial causes. As an instance of the inhumanity with which the negroes were treated, and of the light value that was set upon their lives when they were not then actually useful to the owner, his Royal Highness mentioned the case of a poor black woman that had been sold to a Captain of a ship; the Captain did not discover until after he had bought her, that she had a young child, who then suckled at her breast; upon this he remonstrated with the man with whom he had made the bargain, upon the unfairness of his dealings; as he observed that a woman with a sucking child could not do so much work, and consequently was not worth so much money, as if she had not the child to suckle. The unfeeling barbarous slave merchant then said, "Oh, I will soon settle that point," tore the child from its mother's arms, and throwing it into the sea coolly, received the money for which he had bargained. Much had been said by the Learned Counsel, on the losses their clients would suffer from the inapplicability of the slave ships to other trades. Thus much was correctly stated, but they did not tell their Lordships that these vessels might be most advantageously employed as transports: indeed, no ships whatever were so well adapted to such a purpose. It was evident that the commerce was opposed to every sound maxim of justice

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and humanity, and therefore it ought to be abolished.

Lord Morton said a few words in opposition to the Bill.

The *Earl* of *Westmoreland* commenced his vindication of the Slave Trade by stating, that it had been sanctioned in the earliest ages by that favoured nation which had been specially chosen by the Almighty, and that there was not a word in the New Testament which forbade it. The Noble Lord, indeed, had confessed that slavery had existed from the earliest times, but maintained that it was formerly much milder than it is at present. He however must maintain the contrary position. He should not examine the annals of the most barbarous nations, nor the time when the poets said that slaves were devoured, but he would recur to the Roman History, which often makes mention of slaves being exposed to wild beasts at the amphitheatre; and to the Grecian History, which made mention of the treatment of the Helots. It was not until the reign of the Emperor Adrian that the murder of a slave was punishable. At present there were such provisions for the protection and maintenance of our slaves in the West Indies as former ages had not. If the great Disposer of Events had consulted Democrats or Jacobins at the creation, perhaps slavery would not have existed; but as he had no such counsellors, it pleased him to ordain that slavery should exist in Africa, and as it has existed there since the earliest time, we had no right to find fault with, or oppose the dispensations of Providence. Whatever might be the professions of those who brought forward the measure, he considered the tendency of it as very dangerous; and he could not avoid recollecting, that the attempt of the Sierra Leone Company, begun from motives of humanity, produced all these evils which it professed to remedy. When Ministers proposed to Bonaparte to abolish the Slave Trade in France, he replied, that he must first consider how such a step would affect the interests of his colonies. It was to be hoped that the House would have the same consideration for the British colonies.—We could not prevent France, Spain, Portugal, and America, from taking up the trade, neither could we prevent the Emperor of Morocco, or the African Princes, from continuing it. He then touched on the great importance of the West Indies, as taking off one-third of our exports, employing from sixteen to twenty thousand seamen, and yielding four or five millions annually to the revenue. He considered it quite impossible that the population in the islands could maintain itself, when the proportion of women to men was only as two to five. He thought every person possessed of property was bound to oppose the measure.

Lord Selkirk said, that if, because slavery existed, it was therefore to be called a dispensation of Providence, which must be submitted to, upon the same ground it might be said that murders and robberies were also the dispensations of Providence, and should not be punished by the executioner. He contended that the population must support itself by natural means in our West India Islands as well as in every other part of the world, if the slaves were well treated.

Lord Sidmouth had given the utmost attention to this subject for the last twenty years, and felt extreme pain to differ materially from those with whom he had been most intimately connected in his opinion on this subject. It also gave him great pain to differ on this subject from the general feeling of the great body of the people of this country. No man was more thoroughly convinced than he was of the injustice and enormity of the trade in itself, and no man more sincerely wished for its abolition; but he retained the same opinion, now that he had formerly expressed, that a Gradual Abolition would be the only effectual mode of destroying this trade. He wished to abolish the Trade of Slaves from Africa, but he did not wish merely to shift the trade from the merchants of Liverpool to the merchants of other nations, that are always our rivals in commerce, and our enemies in war. The celebrated Mr Burke, who was as warm a friend as any man to the entire abolition of the trade, thought that the best means of effecting it would be to throw obstacles and impediments in the way of it, which would in time amount to an absolute prohibition.

tion. He concluded by declaring his opinion against the total and immediate abolition.

Lord Rosslyn was convinced that the immediate abolition of the odious traffic would be attended with no injurious effects to the colonies, to the culture of which the Negroes already imported were fully competent, if properly treated. Such treatment, it might be said, it was the obvious interest of the Planter to give the Negroes, and therefore it might be inferred that they experienced it already, and yet that importation became necessary to keep up the supply. This, however, he was prepared to contradict. He knew that planters and their agents were too much in the habit of sacrificing their interest to their passions, which they were not likely to controul either from the prescriptions of their Colonial Legislatures, until by prohibiting further importation, they should be urged by the pressure of necessity to do so. It was only from the strongest impulse of self-interest, from the most cogent persuasions of necessity, that men of such habits were likely to adopt the practice of humanity. When unable to procure any more negroes, they would feel the urgency of taking care of those they already had.

Earl St Vincent deprecated the measure, which, if passed, would, he was satisfied, have the effect of transferring British Capital to other countries, which would not be disposed to abandon such a productive branch of trade. As to the humanity so much contended for, it would be well if Noble Lords reflected upon this question, whether humanity was consulted by the abolition. If it were, their arguments would be well founded. But, from his own experience, he was enabled to state, that the West India Islands formed a paradise itself, to the Negroes, in comparison with their native country. Knowing this, which, upon due inquiry, it was in the power of any Noble Lord to ascertain, he was surprised at the proposition before the House; and considering the high character and intelligence of the Noble proposer, he declared that he could account in no other way for his having brought it forward, but by supposing that some *Obi man* had cast his spell upon him (*a laugh.*)

The *Earl* of *Northesk* detailed several instances of wanton cruelty practised upon the Negroes in the colonies by their masters, who were scarcely under the controul of any law with regard to their conduct. If humane treatment were practised towards the negroes, he was certain, from his knowledge of the colonies, that a sufficient supply could be kept up for every purpose of cultivation, and such treatment, the good effects of which he had witnessed at St Christopher's, and other of the colonies, was not, he was very much afraid, ever likely to become general, until the Planters were precluded from farther supplies. As to the assertion of the Noble Earl (St Vincent) with respect to the celestial comforts of the slaves, he was rather disposed to think, that however long that Noble Lord might have been stationed in the West Indies, he had seen very little of the interior of any of the colonies, or he would not have made that assertion.

Lord Eldon spoke against the measure, which he thought went farther, and urged a procedure more precipitate than even the advocates for the abolition could require, if their feelings were at all influenced by considerations of policy or justice towards their own merchants. The consequences of a sudden abolition upon their colonies, upon the colonies of others, and upon our mercantile interest, ought to be seriously consideged. It was admitted on all sides, that the treatment which the negroes experienced from British dealers was humanity itself, compared to that which they met from those of other nations concerned in the traffic.—Of course, should we withdraw from the trade, while other nations pursue it, humanity would be outraged, because the fate of the negroes would be aggravated.

The *Bishop* of *Durham* spoke in support of the Abolition. Though it should be argued that the Slave Trade was favourable to the commercial interests of the nation, he should still say that it was unworthy of us to seek such means of wealth, so hostile to the principles of morality and religion.

The *Earl* of *Moira* thought that the evidence upon the table of the House must be sufficient to convince their

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Lordships of the necessity of abolishing this sanguinary trade. If Noble Lords were not satisfied with this evidence, he refered to that great work, the Old Testament, and that great Commentator upon that work, whose great maxim was, "Do unto others as you would they should do unto you."

Lord Hawkesbury admitted that the Slave Trade was a great political evil, and that it was desirable to put an end to it; but considering that slavery had been permitted under the Jewish Dispensation, that there was no express prohibition of it in the Christian; that it was a condition of mankind which many great and wise men in all ages had sanctioned, he was not prepared to say that to allow slavery was a crime. The question was whether it could be abolished by the proposed measure, and whether the consequence would be beneficial to the nations of Africa? He denied, that our withdrawing from it would abolish the trade; and if it only shifted hands, the change would be to the disadvantage of the negroes, and of the cause of humanity. He contended that the present measure would only transfer the African trade to others, to the great disadvantage of this nation, and the loss of the West-India Planters. To compact among the different Powers to abolish the traffic would be the most effectual remedy; but if we began the thing in this manner, all arguments to induce other Powers to enter into a compact was removed.

Lord Holland supported the Abolition. He said that the arguments of Lord Eldon respecting the opinions of former Statesmen and Legislators, Lord Somers, Mr Locke, &c. would, in their application, put a stop to all improvement. But could it be supposed that so great and wise a man as Mr Locke, after reading the evidence which lay on the table respecting the Slave Trade, would give it his sanction? The evil was now exposed, and could not be defended. As well we might be told that the Reformation was unnecessary, as it might be said, could a Reverend Prelate be more wise than Sir T. More, or more learned than Erasmus? It was in vain, therefore, to say that the Slave Trade was justified by the authority of those whose attention had never been called to its enormity. The Christian Religion had tended to abolish slavery in Europe, and its principle equally led us to abolish the detestable traffic in human beings on the coast of Africa. He contended, on the authority of Mr Park, that the demand for slaves tended to perpetuate wars in the interior of Africa, and maintained, that if the market were taken away, the horrors which led to its supply would cease. He insisted, that if the trade were abolished, the stock of negroes in the West Indies would be kept up by the ordinary means of increase, which could not be the case while the trade continued, and the interest of the Planters found its account in a different system.

The House then divided; for the second reading of the Bill, Contents 72; Proxies 28;—100. Non contents 28; Proxies 8;36. — Majority 64.

Friday, Feb. 6.

The House resolved itself into a Committee on the bill. The preamble having been postponed,

Lord Grenville said, that the time which he intended to propose as the period for the abolition of this trade, might, perhaps, appear somewhat at variance with that eager desire which the House had expressed for the abolition, but the gratification arising from the near prospect of at length carrying into effect this great measure, would perhaps induce them to give way, in a small degree, to circumstances, and not to insist upon an abolition to take place immediately. He proposed that the time to be fixed for the abolition of the trade from Africa to the West Indies should be the 1st of January 1808, but that no ships should clear out from our own ports after the 1st of May in the present year. Vessels at present engaged in the trade should have a fair opportunity of clearing out from the ports of this country previous to the 1st of May next, and afterwards of taking in their lading in the ports of Africa, and of carrying their cargoes to the West Indies, previous to the 1st of January 1808. As it might happen, however, that from unavoidable circumstances, some vessels might not be able to complete

plete their cargoes on the coast of Africa, so as to carry them to the West Indies previous to that period, he intended to submit to the Committee a proviso for the purpose of allowing vessels under such circumstances to trade to the West Indies with their cargoes.

The blanks were filled up in conformity with his Lordship's propositions.

The *Earl of Hardwicke* doubted whether the provisions of the bill would not interfere with the recruiting for the Black corps in the West Indies.

Lord Grenville was of opinion the recruiting would not be affected by the bill, as freemen, and not slaves, were the objects of recruiting.

A short conversation took place between Lord Redesdale and Lord Grenville; the former Noble Lord conceiving that the bill might be construed to extend to our possessions in the East Indies, and to our factories in Asia Minor: Lord Grenville observed, that no slaves had been imported to either for some time. He was aware, however, that both in the East Indies and in Asia Minor, there were many Christians who kept a number of slaves, but he did not conceive that this bill could be construed to extend so as to injure them in their property. He would, however, again consider the subject, and if necessary, a clause to prevent the effect of any such construction might be proposed.

The *Earl of Westmoreland* suggested, that the time fixed for the abolition ought to be extended, Parliament having, by the act of last session, pledged itself that the trade should continue for two years.

Lord Grenville denied that any such pledge had been given by Parliament, as the object of the bill passed last session was to prohibit any more vessels from being engaged in the trade, but there was nothing in it from which it could be inferred, that the vessels already engaged in the trade were to be allowed to continue it for any certain time.

The preamble was again taken into consideration.

Lord Hawkesbury objected to the words in the preamble, which declared the slave trade to be contrary to justice, humanity, and sound policy. Upon the principles which were thus stated as the grounds of the abolition, he could not understand the distinction made between the abolition of the trade, and the emancipation of the slaves already in the islands. Admitting, for the sake of argument, the assertion in the preamble to be true, the same principle would equally apply to the existing state of slavery in the West India Islands, as to the abolition of the trade in slaves.—It was perfectly clear, that if the ground of expediency was taken as the foundation of this measure, that then there would be a marked distinction between abolition and emancipation; the former would be expedient, whilst the latter would be clearly inexpedient. He thought that much danger was to be apprehended from holding out to the negroes in the West Indies, the principle that the slave trade, by which they were originally brought thither, was contrary to justice and humanity.

The *Lord Chancellor* observed, that the expression in the preamble having been admitted by the Noble Lord (Hawkesbury) to be true, it followed that it ought to be retained. What was the objection of the Noble Lord last night? It was, that this trade ought not to be abolished, except in conjunction with Foreign Powers, and now the Noble Lord, by his motion, would take away the only ground upon which we could ask other powers to co-operate in the abolition of the trade.

The *Earl of Morton* thought the adoption of abstract principles in a Legislative act was inconsistent with the wise and wary language which their ancestors had used on such occasions, and seemed rather like an adoption of that mode of expression which had been so repeatedly used in modern France.

Earl Stanhope approved highly of the expression in the preamble which had been objected to. He thought, however, that this bill would not do much towards the abolition of the slave trade, without the adoption of adequate regulations in the colonies.

The *Earl of Lauderdale* maintained, that the words which it was proposed to leave out were the most essential words in the bill. This he could illustrate by communications which he had, whilst at Paris, with one of the French Ministers on this subject. On his urging to the Minister the abolition of

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the slave trade, he was told that England, with all her colonies well stocked with negroes, and affording a large produce, might abolish the trade without inconvenience; but that France, with ill stocked, and deficient in produce, could not abolish it without conceding to us the greatest advantages, and sustaining a proportionate loss. Thus, then, if we were to declare the ground of our abolishing the trade to the expediency alone, we should be declaring that we were actuated by the very policy imputed to us by the French Minister; and how, in thus being supposed to make no sacrifice ourselves, could we call with any effect upon foreign powers to co operate in the abolition?

The *Duke of Montrose* declared himself to be a friend to the abolition, but thought at the same time that it would be better to leave out the words objected to.

Lord Holland said, he could not clearly understand the distinctions which had been attempted to be drawn between justice and expediency; whilst on the one hand it was essentially just that the trade should be abolished, it could only tend to their own injury.—He was surprised to hear a Noble Lord condemning the introduction of abstract principles into legislation. What did our bill of rights contain but abstract principles?

The *Duke of Clarence* urged the danger which might result from retaining these expressions.

The Committee divided on the question, that the words objected to stand part of the preamble. Contents 36; Non-Contents 10—Majority 23.

Monday, February 9.

The report of the Committee on the bill having been brought up,

Lord Grenville moved the various amendments, and that the bill be engrossed.

The Bishop of London lamented that he was prevented from giving his support to the bill at an earlier stage. He had devoted much of his attention to the subject for the last 24 years, and it was one in the success of which he was peculiarly interested. The slave trade had been described by the late Mr Pitt, "as the greatest practical evil that ever afflicted mankind:" Surely then the removal of it must be the greatest practical good.

The Earl of St Vincent embraced this the last opportunity which he supposed he would have, of expressing his disapprobation of the bill. He thought it probable that peace might be the consequence of this great boon to France; for the advantages which it would afford her were too great not to induce her to make the most extensive sacrifices to pursue them. He considered the monopoly of the African trade, which would be the certain consequence of this bill, a greater acquisition to France than all her continental aggrandizements. It was, in fact, such an acquisition as would ultimately, he feared, enable her to contest with us the dominion of the seas.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed, and read a third time next day.

Tuesday, Feb. 10.

The order of the day, for the third reading of the bill being read,

Lord Redesdale opposed the bill. Its merits were, he said, entirely rested by its advocates on the principle, that what was just, humane, and politic, abstractedly taken, was just, humane, and politic in practice; and that it was wise to abolish instantaneously whatever evil was speculatively inhuman and unjust. To this doctrine he decidedly objected, as, on the present question, in particular, it was pregnant with all those horrors, with regard to our West India islands, which had desolated the colony of St Domingo. Upon the principles laid down by the supporters of the measure, he defied them to show any solid reason why the state of slavery in our colonies should not also be instantaneously abolished. But with respect to that, they could make a distinction of expediency. However his opposition to the bill might be represented, he was content to be classed with Lord Somers, Bishop Robertson, the Earl of Guildford, and all the other great names who had permitted or sanctioned the continuance of the trade in slaves.

Lord Buckinghamshire said, he was one of those who, in 1792, voted for the gradual abolition of the slave trade. He was then desirous that time should be given for those who were embarked in it to withdraw their capital gradually from

from that channel. That time they had abundantly received, and they could not but be well prepared for the period which had now, he hoped, arrived, when the trade should be for ever abolished.—His Lordship quoted an extract from Mr Long's History of Jamaica, in proof of the expediency of the measure in reference to the interests of the planters themselves.

Lord Redesdale explained.

Lord Grenville said, the argument so triumphantly urged by the Noble and Learned Lord was one of the grossest sophisms he had ever heard. Could he not perceive, that it rendered the justice which we owed to the negroes of Africa dependent on the justice which was due to a third party in this question, namely, the negroes in the West Indies: But he would even put the question on that footing, and what would be the result? The supporters of the bill had never (and God forbid they should) said that it was just to retain the latter class in a state of perpetual slavery; but they maintained that there would be no humanity in setting them instantaneously free; and justice to themselves, therefore, required that such a measure should not be suddenly resorted to. They required to be gradually prepared for a state of freedom; otherwise, instead of a blessing, it would be the greatest curse to them.

The bill was then read a third time, passed, and sent down to the Commons.

NEGOCIATION WITH FRANCE.

Papers presented to Parliament by order of his Majesty.

Continued from p. 139.

No. XIV.

Copy of a dispatch from the Earls of Lauderdale and Yarmouth to Mr Secretary Fox.

SIR, *Paris, August* 9, 1806.

Thinking it unnecessary to send a courier to England with the details of the mere matters of form which necessarily took place after Lord Lauderdale's arrival, we have delayed writing till there appeared something of importance to communicate to you.

We have now to inform you, that Lord Lauderdale, having exhibited his powers, and delivered a copy in the customary form, our first meeting with Gen. Clarke, the Plenipotentiary of the French Government, took place at his house, on Thursday 7th August, at noon.

Our conversation commenced by Gen. Clarke's observing, that as Lord Lauderdale had just arrived from London, with full instructions from his Majesty, he had, probably, something new to communicate.

Lord Lauderdale in substance replied, that it was his wish, before intermeddling with the negociation now pending, distinctly to call to the recollection of Gen. Clarke what had already passed between his Majesty and the Government of France, and at once, precisely, to state the only footing on which his Majesty could consent to treat. To effect this object, he informed General Clarke, that he had prepared a note which he begged to deliver to him as official. (No. 13. in our last.)

Gen. Clarke read the note twice with great attention, and afterwards placed it in his portfolio, saying, that he must take it *ad referendum*.

Very little passed at this meeting sufficiently interesting to merit being detailed: the General objected to the practice he apprehended Lord Lauderdale meant to introduce of conducting the negociation by writing; and said, he was afraid the Emperor would regard it as a means of endless delay, if a note was to be delivered upon every insignificant question which it might be necessary to discuss. The reply consisted merely in stating the distinction between delivering a written note for the purpose of at once bringing to a point the basis on which the negociation was to be conducted, and resorting on every trivial occasion to that practice. The first, it was contended, must accelerate; the latter, it was admitted, would delay the negociation, and it would be, therefore, carefully avoided, as it was his Majesty's wish that no delay should take place.

General Clarke, with something like an insinuation that an unfair advantage was taken by the Government of Great Britain, announced, that as there had been two Plenipotentiaries appointed by his Majesty, it was the Emperor's intention to do the same, and that the name of the person selected would be communicated to us.

It is proper to state, that, in the course of this conversation, Lord Yarmouth recalled to General Clarke's recollection, that in all the interviews he had with him, he uniformly stated the *uti possidetis* as the only basis upon which he could possibly treat. General Clarke in reply said, that he could make no answer to what Lord Yarmouth stated, without alluding to conversations which he affected to consider as

loose,

loose, calling them "*des romans politiques*," (political romances,) at the same time, by his silence, he clearly admitted what Lord Yarmouth most distinctly stated.

Our first interview terminated with an appointment to meet at Lord Lauderdale's apartments on Friday the 8th, at twelve o'clock, the General observing, that it might be perhaps necessary to put off the appointment, as he wished to have full time to consider the note which had been delivered, and as the new Plenipotentiary might wish to have an opportunity carefully to read the correspondence that hitherto had taken place. He promised, at the same time, if this was the case, to give us notice by writing in the morning.

On Friday the 8th, Lord Lauderdale sent a note to General Clarke, stating, that an appointment had been made by Lords Lauderdale and Yarmouth, to receive the Turkish Ambassador at four o'clock, and requesting that the meeting should take place on Saturday the 9th at noon.

General Clarke and Mons. Champagny, the newly-appointed Plenipotentiary, afterwards put off this meeting till four o'clock same day, as the latter was obliged to attend the Emperor's Privy Council at St Cloud.

General Clarke and M. Champagny came to the meeting appointed at four o'clock, and a conversation took place, which lasted for upwards of two hours.—Into the details of this, it is impossible now to enter. The general object of it was to engage Lord Lauderdale to depart from the basis which he had insisted should be recognised, to prevail upon him to consult his Government, or to take ten or fifteen days for consideration; but it terminated by Lord Lauderdale's declaring, that the last note was to be considered as a prelude to his demanding passports, for which he should apply to M. Talleyrand in the course of the evening.

The letter, a copy of which (marked F.) is inclosed, was dispatched to M. Talleyrand half an hour after the departure of the Plenipotentiaries, and it appears highly improbable that any proposition should be made, which can alter our resolution of leaving France the moment the passports arrive. We have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) LAUDERDALE.
YARMOUTH.

No. XV.

Copy of a dispatch from Mr Secretary Fox to the Earls of Lauderdale and Yarmouth.

Downing-street, 14th August 1806.

MY LORDS,

His Majesty's servants have observed, from the dispatches received this day, that some insinuation has been thrown out by the French Government of a disposition on the part of this country to gain some unfair advantage by the employment of two Plenipotentiaries in the present discussions. That Government has since taken the obvious mode of counteracting this advantage (if any such there was) by naming on their part also a second Plenipotentiary. But, the King's Government is desirous, while it adheres steadily to the substance of those points which are thought fit to be insisted on for the honour and interest of his Majesty's Crown, to leave no pretence for cavils as to the form in which these discussions are carried on. The advantage which was to be looked to from the personal share which the Earl of Yarmouth originally had in these transactions, as the bearer of the overtures made by France, has now ceased. And while his Lordship has, on the one hand, properly recorded his decisive testimony as to the reality of those overtures, and as to the exact terms of peace so offered, the French Government has, on the other hand, not only refused to adhere to these offers, but has expressly declared, that they never can even have entered into their thoughts.—"* Jamais il n' a avenir dans la pensee de sa Majeste l'Empereur des Francois, Roi d'Italie, de prendre pour base de la negociation l'*uti possidetis*."

In this state of things, the King's servants are not aware of any benefits that would be likely to result to his Majesty's service from imposing on Lord Yarmouth any further duty in this respect; nor do they wish that any such ground for cavil as I have before alluded to, however unfounded it would be, should be left to the enemy.

They have, therefore, submitted it as their humble advice to his Majesty, that, in case of the continuance of the negociations, the French Minister should be informed, that they will henceforth be conducted by the Earl of Lauderdale alone, the Earl of Yarmouth having received his Majesty's gracious permission to return to England; but that his Majesty does not, on his part, make any objection to Lord Lauderdale's treating with both the persons who have been named by the French Government for that trust:—A proof perfectly decisive, in all its parts, that no unfair

* "It never could have entered into the thoughts of his Majesty the Emperor of the French, King of Italy, to take for the basis of the negociation, the *uti possidetis*."

fair advantage, such as the French Government appears to apprehend, can have been in the King's contemplation.

I am, &c. C. J. Fox.

No 16.—Extract from the Earl of Lauderdale to Mr Secretary Fox, dated Paris, 16th August 1806, giving an account of the interchange of some notes, and of the delays which were experienced in getting answers from the French Government.

No. 17.—Copy of a dispatch from the Earl of Lauderdale to Mr Secretary Fox, dated Paris, August 17, giving an account of the intimation which he had communicated to the French Government of the return of Lord Yarmouth to England.

No. XVIII.

Extract of a dispatch from Mr Secretary Fox to the Earl of Lauderdale.

Downing-street, 23d August 1806.

My Lord,

The contents of your last dispatches do not appear to require any particular answer, and this messenger is sent back only that you may be enabled to keep us regularly informed (so long as you shall still continue at Paris) of the state of the negociation there.

If, on the arrival of any intelligence of the decision of Russia not to ratify without the consent of this Court, the French Government should increase their offers in order to separate his Majesty from the Emperor of Russia, your Lordship is on all such occasions to observe, that it is M. D' Oubril's treaty alone that has released his Majesty from the obligation not to separate in substance his treaty from that of Russia, an obligation to which his Majesty had determined scrupulously to adhere, and from which, even in point of form, he had departed no farther than he had learnt to be the wish of Russia herself. Should, therefore, M. D'Oubril's treaty not be ratified, the two Courts would revert to their former situation, with the additional bond of union which would result from the mutual proofs they would thus have afforded to each other of their resolution to adhere invariably to the spirit and principles of their alliance.

No. XIX.

Copy of a dispatch from the Earl of Lauderdale to Mr Secretary Fox.

Sir, *Paris, 29th August* 1806.

In my last dispatch, dated August 25th, I had the honour of stating to you the detail of the negociation till the afternoon of that day. At eleven o'clock at night, I received from the Plenipotentiaries of France, a note, intimating their desire of having a conference on the subject of the note written by Lord Yarmouth and myself, on the 11th of the month.

On the 26th, at the hour appointed, I went to the office of the Minister of the Interior, where I found M. de Champagny and General Clarke, the two Plenipotentiaries of the French Government.

The general result of what passed impressed me with a conviction that the French Plenipotentiaries no longer thought of making peace, upon the grounds on which France was understood to desire it at the time of Lord Yarmouth's communication; and I am confident that the part I bore in the discussion thoroughly satisfied them, that I was resolved firmly to adhere to the ground which I had taken in the note of the 11th, on which I was invited to hear their remarks.

The hour of dinner terminated our conference, a renewal of which, on any day I should name, was, after dinner, anxiously solicited by M. de Champagny. I objected to it, as apparently unnecessary, and only calculated to protract my stay in this country to no purpose; but, before I left him, I expressed my willingness to comply once more with the wishes of the French Plenipotentiaries, as a farther mark of my anxiety to do any thing which even they could think had a tendency to produce that peace which his Majesty was so anxious to accomplish on equitable terms; and another meeting was fixed to take place on Friday, the 29th, at three o'clock.

Late on the evening of the 26th, I waited on the Minister for Foreign Affairs, for the purpose of informing him, that at the request of the Plenipotentiaries of France, I had agreed to a renewal of the conference. He had gone to St Cloud, and as, by the Minister's absence, I had no opportunity of explaining my reasons for not waiting on him, for the purpose of asking passports, as announced in my note of the 25th, I thought it right, early next morning, to send a letter, of which a copy is inclosed.

On the 27th, after dinner, I had a very long conference with the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the substance of which confirmed me in the opinion I antecedently formed, in consequence of what passed at the meeting with the Plenipotentiaries of France, that there is at present no disposition to make peace on the terms tendered for his Majesty's acceptance; and I am convinced you will have the same impression, when I state to you that M. Talleyrand, in the course of our conversation, repeatedly

made

made use of the following marked expression:—"Jamais l'Empereur ne cedera un grain de poussiere du territoire Francois."

In the course of this conference, the Minister frequently alluded to the situation of Hanover, and stated, that, within 48 hours, its fate must be determined for ever. He seemed much surprised that nothing appeared to make any impression on me, frequently repeating, that, in getting the Cape, Malta, and his Majesty's Hanoverian dominions, I should make a glorious peace; and assuring me, that if this opportunity should be lost, he did not foresee any means by which peace could ever be attained, as the Emperor was determined to make war all his life, rather than yield any part of the territory of France, the integrity of which he had sworn to maintain.

Our conversation ended by my assuring him, at the time I was about to retire, that while these sentiments continued to prevail in this country, it is impossible that peace should be made, and that the knowledge I now possessed of the opinions entertained by the French Government, I could not acquit myself of trifling, if I should remain any longer to carry on what I must consider as a farce.

After a full consideration of all that has taken place, I have, therefore, this morning resolved to bring things to a point, by delivering to the Plenipotentiaries of France the detailed note of which I inclose a copy (marked D.)

I am, &c.

(Signed) LAUDERDALE.

No. XX.

Extract from a dispatch from the Earl of Lauderdale to Mr Secretary Fox, dated Paris, August 30. 1806.

Paris Aug. 30. 1806.

SIR,

When I reflect on the contents of the dispatch I had the honour of making up for you yesterday, I cannot help anticipating the surprise with which you must receive the intelligence, that I am now under an engagement to renew the conference with the Plenipotentiaries of France, on Thursday, the 4th of September.

On going yesterday, at three o'clock, to the office of the Minister of the Interior, I confess I did not see the possibility of any thing occurring that could prevent my executing the resolution I had formed, of demanding passports this morning, and of returning immediately to England. I trust I need scarcely assure you, that I have as strong an impression as any man can have, of the bad consequences that may attend exhibiting any thing which looks like versatility of conduct; and yet, under the circumstances in which I found myself placed, I am satisfied I had no choice, and that I could not refuse, with propriety, the solicitations of the French Plenipotentiaries to renew the conference.

At the commencement of our interview, I perceived a disposition to greater cordiality than I had hitherto experienced. To M. Champagny's enquiry, whether they had been fortunate enough, by what they had said, to induce me to deliver the project of a treaty, I answered, by recalling to his recollection, the reasons I had formerly stated for declining such a proceeding till the basis that had originally been proposed was again formally recognised; and I informed him, that in order to give them an accurate view of my conception of the subject, I had prepared a note which I wished to submit to them, delivering to them the note, a copy of which I had the honour of inclosing in my dispatch of August 20th.

After reading this note, and observing in general that they did not know whether, if we should come to a particular explanation, we might not arrive at a conclusion coincident in effect with the object I had in view, when I insisted on the general principle, they entered into a detail with respect to the necessity of some immediate determination on the subject of Hanover, and afterwards stated their views as to the French possessions in the East Indies, the Dutch colonies, St Lucie, and Tobago; on all of which they talked in a style so perfectly different from any thing I had before heard, that I should not be more surprised if, at our next conference, they were to give them up, than I was at the change of tone manifested on this occasion.

A great deal more passed in the way of general conversation; all of which tended to shew me, that, although they were still at a wide distance from such terms as I could accede to, they had wonderfully relaxed from the tone they had antecedently assumed.

M. de Champagny then invited me to name a day for resuming our conference. To this I decidedly objected, admitting, at the same time, that they had made concessions in the course of our discussion; but adding, that they were still so far from agreeing to admit what the English Government uniformly conceived the original proposition to have conveyed, that I could not yet indulge any hopes of our coming to an agreement, and should therefore feel it necessary to terminate my mission.

M. de Champagny asked me, with some warmth, whether I had wished for peace on the terms which I myself had stated? whether

whether I thought myself authorised, after the concessions they had just made, to refuse them time to consider how much farther they might go? and whether I might not reasonably entertain hopes, that, with a little time, the differences which appeared now to separate us might vanish?

On receiving such a remonstrance, I thought it impossible not to agree to a renewal of the conference; and, after some conversation, Thursday was fixed for the day of our meeting.

No. XXI.

Extract from a dispatch from Earl Spencer to the Earl of Lauderdale, dated Downing street, September 4. 1806.

My Lord, *Downing-street, Sept. 4.*

I am commanded by his Majesty to inform your Lordship that he is pleased to approve entirely the conduct you held in the circumstances detailed in your last dispatches, and to express his Majesty's satisfaction in the good effect which appeared to have resulted from it.

It is proper, however, to remark, that as the French Plenipotentiaries have not bound themselves as yet by any written note, nor have even in conversation agreed to replace the negociation on its true basis, the present appearances of greater facility on their part, may probably arise only from their desire of keeping your Lordship at Paris till the answer from Petersburgh shall be received; an object which your Lordship's last note had shewn them they could no longer accomplish without some departure from the ground on which they have hitherto stood.

If the Russian treaty shall not be ratified, his Majesty is then (as I have already observed to your Lordship) replaced with respect to the Emperor of Russia in the same situation as before the signature of M. D'Oubril's treaty; but with the additional tye, which the two Courts would in that case feel from the fresh proofs each shall have given to the other of a steady adherence to the system of alliance; and it will then be necessary that our peace shall be so far made dependent on that of Russia, as pointed out in the instructions originally given to Lord Yarmouth.

Since the above was written, we have received the important intelligence contained in the indorsed papers *, copies of which I have thought it necessary to forward to you without a moment's delay, for your information; the case is already provided for in this dispatch, and in the present state of our information on the subject, I have nothing to add to what is above stated. A few days will now probably put us in possession of the further views and intentions of Russia, to which reference must of course be had in every succeeding stage of the negociation; and, as I shall lose no time in transmitting to your Lordship such fresh instructions as these may give rise to, so we shall be anxious to hear as soon as possible from you what effect this event may produce on the disposition of the French Government.

No. XXII.

Extract from a dispatch from the Earl of Lauderdale, to Secretary Fox, dated Paris, Sept. 4. 1806.

Sir, *Paris, Sept. 4, 1806.*

In my last dispatch I informed you, that in consequence of the solicitations of the Plenipotentiaries of France, urged in the manner I there stated to you, I had consented to a renewal of the conference this day at three o'clock.

About half past two I received from M. Talleyrand a note, a copy of which marked A. as well as of my answer, marked B. I now inclose.

On going to M. Talleyrand's office, I found him just returned from St Cloud He began by informing me, that till yesterday they had received no certain information from Petersburgh; but the courier who arrived last night, had brought intelligence that the Emperor had positively refused to ratify the treaty. He stated, that he had the Emperor's orders to say that this change of circumstances would certainly induce him to make peace with England on more favourable terms than he would otherwise have at present consented to; and further, to declare, that as he would find it necessary to give to his Plenipotentiaries new instructions, so he thought it proper to communicate this to me, that I might write to my Court to receive also such further instructions as they might think proper to give.

In answer to a question which I asked, whether there was any reason to expect the arrival of any Minister to renew the negociation on the part of Russia, he said, that no information on that subject had been received. On taking leave, I assured M. Talleyrand that I should report to you the apparent openness with which the communication had been made, and that I should dispatch a courier this evening with the information.

(To be continued.)

* Intelligence of the refusal of the Emperor of Russia to ratify M. D'Oubril's treaty.

Historical Affairs.

WEST INDIES.

Capture of Curacoa.

WE with pleasure announce the capture of this valuable Dutch island by a squadron of frigates under command of Commodore Brisbane, on the 1st of January, the following account of which, addressed by the Commodore to Admiral Dacres at Jamaica, was published in a *London Gazette Extraordinary* on Sunday Feb. 22.

His Majesty Ship Arethusa, Curacoa, January 1, 1807.

SIR,

It is with the most lively and heartfelt satisfaction I have the honour to inform you, that his Majesty's squadron under my command has this day opened the new year with what I humbly flatter myself will be deemed an enterprise of considerable consequence to my country.

I proceeded in the execution of your orders the 29th of November with every possible avidity; but the adverse wind and current prevented me from reaching this island before the 1st inst. In my way up, I met Captain Bolton, of the Fisgard, going to Jamaica; I took him under my orders, according to your directions, and proceeded with the squadron off this port, having previously resolved on that system of attack which British seamen are so capable of executing. My arrangements having been previously made known to the respective Captains, I was satisfied nothing further remained for me than to put it in execution. My line of battle consisted of the Arethusa, Latona, Anson, and Fisgard; and very soon after the break of day, I made all possible sail with the ships in close order of battle, passing the whole extensive line of sea batteries, and anchored the squadron in a stile far surpassing my expectations. Being still desirous of having the effusion of human blood spared, I writ the inclosed, No. 1. on the capstane of his Majesty's ship Arethusa, during the action, which was not regarded, as they did their utmost to destroy us. Words cannot express the ability of the squadron. The harbour was defended by regular fortifications of two tier of guns, Fort Amsterdam alone consisting of sixty-six pieces of cannon; the entrance only fifty yards wide, athwart which was the Dutch frigate Hatslar, of 36 guns, and Surinam of 22, with two large schooners of war, one commanded by a Dutch Commander; a chain of forts was on Meselburgh commanding height: and that almost impregnable fortress, Fort Republique, within the distance of grape shot enfilading the whole harbour.

At a quarter past six o'clock we entered the port; a severe and destructive cannonade ensued; the frigate, sloop, and schooners were carried by boarding; the lower forts, the citadel and town of Amsterdam, by storm; all of which, by seven o'clock, were in our possession. For humanity's sake I granted the annexed capitulation: and at ten o'clock, the British flag was hoisted in Fort Republique;—the whole Island is in our quiet possession. The strength, commerce, and value, I understand, is immense. It is now become a pleasing part of my duty, although impossible to do justice to the merits, gallantry, and determination of Captains Wood, Lydiard, and Bolton, who so nobly headed their respective ships companies to the storm; and the same gallantry and determination are due to the officers, seamen, and marines, for following up so glorious an example. Inclosed is a list of the killed and wounded in his Majesty's squadron. I have not yet been able to ascertain that of the enemy, except those in the ships. The Dutch Commodore was killed early in the action, and the Captain of the Surinam severely wounded. I have appointed, by proclamation, Wednesday 7th inst. for the inhabitants (which amount to thirty thousand) to take the oath of allegiance to our most gracious Sovereign; those that do not chuse

will

will be instantly embarked as prisoners of war. For any farther particulars I must beg to refer you to that gallant officer Captain Lydiard.

I have the honour to be, &c.
CHARLES BRISBANE.

No. I.

His Majesty's ship Arethusa, Curacoa harbour,

SIR, *January* 1, 1807.

The British squadron are here to protect, and not to conquer you; to preserve to you your lives, liberty, and property. If a shot is fired at any one of my squadron after this summons, I shall immediately storm your batteries. You have five minutes to accede to this determination.

I have the honour to be, &c.
CHARLES BRISBANE.

To his Excellency the Governor of Curacoa.

No. II.

Curacoa, January 1, 1807.

PRELIMINARY ARTICLES of Capitulation agreed upon by CHARLES BRISBANE, Esq. Captain of his Majesty's ship Arethusa, on the one part; and by his Excellency PIERRE JEAN CHANGUION, Governor of the island of Curacoa and its dependencies, on the other,

The Fort Republique shall immediately be surrendered to the British force: the garrison shall march out with the honours of war, lay down their arms, and become prisoners of war. The Dutch garrison at Curacoa shall be prisoners of war, and by his Britannic Majesty sent to Holland, not to serve this war before they shall be regularly exchanged. The same terms are granted to the officers and people of the Dutch men of war. All the civil officers may remain at their respective appointments if they think proper; and those who chuse shall be sent by his Britannic Majesty to Holland. The burghers, merchants, planters, and other inhabitants, without difference of colour or opinion, shall be protected in their persons and property, provided they take the oath of allegiance to his Britannic Majesty.

Curacoa, Jan. 2, 1807.

The foregoing articles having this day been mutually read and agreed to, this capitulation is become definitive.

CHARLES BRISBANE.
P. J. CHANGUION.

A list of the killed and wounded on board his Majesty's squadron.

Arethusa—2 seamen killed, 5 seamen wounded. *Latona*—1 seaman killed, 2 seamen wounded. *Anson*—None killed, 7 seamen wounded. *Fisgard*—None killed, none wounded. Total—3 seamen killed, 14 seamen wounded.

By CHARLES BRISBANE, Esq. Captain of his Majesty's ship Arethusa, and Senior Officer of a squadron of his Majesty's ships employed at Curacoa.

His Excellency Lieutenant-General Changuion, Governor and Commander in Chief of the Island of Curacoa and its dependencies, having refused to take the oath of allegiance to his Britannic Majesty, and surrendered himself prisoner of war, I have thought proper to appoint myself Governor of the said island and its dependencies, until the pleasure of the Commander in Chief is made known; and I do hereby appoint myself accordingly.

Given under my hand at Curacoa this 4th day of January 1807.

CHARLES BRISBANE.

By CHARLES BRISBANE, Esq. Captain of his Majesty's ship Arethusa, and Senior Officer of his Britannic Majesty's squadron in Curacoa harbour.

Whereas this island and its dependencies have surrendered to the arms of his Britannic Majesty, as appears by the capitulation which has been signed by his Excellency Pierre Jean Changuion and me on the 1st inst. I therefore hereby require, that all the burghers and inhabitants of this island shall meet on Wednesday next, the 7th instant, at ten o'clock in the morning, at the Government-house, in order to take the oath of allegiance to his Britannic Majesty aforesaid.

Those who belong to the militia companies will receive further orders from their Major, and are to conduct themselves accordingly.

All those who fill public offices, of whatsoever nature they may be, and all such as do not belong to the militia companies, are also required to meet, at the

the Government-house, at the hour and for the purpose afore-mentioned.

I expect that the burghers and inhabitants of this island will conduct themselves in such a manner as to deserve my protection and favour; and, on my part, shall not fail, as far as in my power lies, to promote the happiness and welfare of this island and its inhabitants; and I flatter myself that my endeavours in this case will be crowned with the gracious approbation of my Sovereign, and, I hope, to the satisfaction of the inhabitants of this island and its dependencies.

Given under my hand, on board his Majesty's ship Arethusa, in the harbour of Curacoa, this 5th day of January 1807.

(Signed) C. BRISBANE.

Additional Particulars from the Jamaica Papers.

Kingston, Jan. 12.

On Saturday, arrived at Port Royal his Majesty's frigate Anson, of 40 guns, Captain Lydiard, from Curacoa, with 200 prisoners, and the colours captured at that island, which was taken in the most extraordinary and gallant manner, by a squadron of frigates consisting of the Arethusa, of 38, Captain Brisbane; Latona, of 38, Captain Wood; Anson, of 40, Captain Lydiard; and Fisgard, of 40, Captain Bolton.

As our squadron did not possess the means of laying regular siege to the place, Captain Brisbane came to the determination of sailing into the port, and storming forts hitherto considered as impregnable, or perishing in the attempt, for retreat was impossible. The time chosen was day-dawn, on the morning of the 1st of January, when all boats were hoisted out, and the squadron stood in with a strong breeze, the Arethusa leading. The enemy were panic-struck at such unexpected temerity; all was confusion—here soldiers without officers—here officers without soldiers—alarm-drums beating in all directions—a British squadron in their very harbour, and within pistol shot of their batteries, before sunrise. Troops collected at Otra Bandy were prevented from crossing the water, our ships interposing. Not more than three broadsides were fired from our frigates, when the ships companies and officers of the Arethusa and Anson, with the Latona, headed by Captains Brisbane and Lydiard, were landed, Fort Amsterdam stormed, and all the out-works had British colours flying before eight, Fort Republic on the hill, and Caracas Fort excepted. The Fisgard had orders to act against Otra Bandy; two batteries distinct from the main land, she took possession of, to one of which the men absolutely swam, the enemy being previously dislodged. The guns of Fort Amsterdam were fired but once. On our people storming the place, they did not act in a body, but retreated in confusion, firing round corners and from houses. The militia, amounting to 3000, had not time to collect, nor could then cross the water in boats. The Dutch frigate Kenau Hatslar was boarded by Captain Brisbane; the Latona warped alongside and took possession, when Captain Brisbane proceeded for the shore. The Surinam corvette was boarded from the larboard bow of the Anson, while her starboard guns were firing at the batteries. The Flying Fish, a large national schooner, was boarded by the boats of the Arethusa; the officers and crews of those vessels fought most gallantly; Commodore Cornelius Evertz was killed; the Captain of the Surinam mortally wounded, and the first Lieutenant dangerously, besides several others. The moment the Town, Fort Amsterdam, &c. were completely in Captain Brisbane's possession, a Lieutenant of Marines was sent with a flag of truce, requiring Fort Republic to surrender. The Officer discontinued firing, but he would not surrender without an order from Lieut. General A. P. Changuion, the Governor, who was at this time a prisoner, with all his staff, in Fort Amsterdam. We understand that Captain Brisbane desired the Council to be collected, and gave them five minutes to capitulate for the whole Island, but as they entreated for a longer period, it was extended to half an hour; in the mean time, the most active preparations were made for storming this almost inaccessible fort. The ship's company of the Fisgard, commanded by Captain Bolton, were in boats ready to proceed by water. The marines of the squadron, with about

about 300 sailors of the Arethusa and Anson, were prepared to advance by land; the remainder of the sailors on shore, including an officer and 60 men from the Latona, manned such guns as could bear on the object of attack, every thing was ready on a signal being made, when a capitulation was signed, and the troops in Fort Republic alone marched out with the honours of war.

All private property is respected, and the troops to be sent to Europe and exchanged. Captain Bolton took possession of Fort Republic. Captains Brisbane and Lydiard landed nearly together; the former was the first man who scaled the walls, the latter the second, closely followed and supported by their respective officers and ships' companies. Captain Wood remained afloat in the command of the squadron; about 220 of the enemy were killed; our loss is very trifling, about six killed and thirty wounded in the whole squadron; had our ships been half an hour later in the attack, the slaughter must have been dreadful—nothing could be better timed.

The Lieutenants of the Arethusa, who stormed the forts, and took possession of the town, under Captain Brisbane, were Parish, Highman, Griffiths, Mr Scott, (1st of Marines) Mr Fennel (2d). Those of the Anson, under Captain Lydiard, were Sullivan, Pte, J. Ferris, G. Peebles (1st of Marines) Lieut. Hay, Marines; Lieut. Jeffries of the Latona, landed afterwards, and manned the guns with 60 men. Each officer commanded a company, who were previously trained. The Boatswains had parties with ladders and crow bars. The Masters remained afloat in charge of the two ships, with the convalescent and sick. The property captured amounts to 500,000l. independent of the men of war, prisoners, &c. The ship's company of the Arethusa were distinguished by the motto on their caps, "*Victory or Death.*" The Anson's by a Blue A on the right breast—officers, white A on the arm of a blue jacket. The Fisgard, white handkerchiefs were worn by officers, and blue collars by the men. Lieutenants Parish and Sullivan are made acting Commanders; Mr Reed, purser of the Anson, is appointed storekeeper at Curacoa; Mr Elliot of the Arethusa, is appointed Commissary.

When we consider the immense strength of the harbour, the long line of sea batteries which the squadron had to pass, that Fort Amsterdam alone had 66 pieces of cannon, that the harbour was but fifty yards wide, athwart which was a Dutch frigate of 36 guns, a sloop of 20 guns, and two schooners; that, besides Fort Amsterdam, there was a chain of forts upon a commanding height, and another fortress, deemed almost impregnable, within the distance of gun-shot, and enfilading the whole harbour; when we consider that a place so defended was taken by four frigates, in less than three hours, we may well exclaim, in the words of James the Second, when he beheld from the French shore the destruction of the French fleet at La Hogue, "None but my brave English seamen could have performed so gallant an action."

INDIA.

An overland dispatch is arrived, which left Bombay on the 18th of September. Letters by this conveyance state, that Tippoo's sons having been strongly suspected of having instigated the mutiny in the native troops at Vellore, in July last, had been sent off to Calcutta, and they were removed without any disturbance taking place. The alarm which the unfortunate event of the mutiny had at first excited has subsided.

East India House, Feb. 17.

The following list of the Officers killed and wounded at Vellore on the 10th July 1806, has been this day received.

KILLED.—Colonel Fancourt, commanding the garrison.—2d battalion 23d regiment Native Infantry, Lieut. Colonel M'Kerras, Capt. Willison, Lieut. Winship, ——. Jolly.—1st battalion 1st regiment Native Infantry, Capt. Miller, Lieut. O'Reilly, ——. Smart, —— Titchbourne.—His Majesty's 69th regt. Lieut. Eley, Lieut. Popham.—Mr S. S. Smith, Military Paymaster.—Mr Mann, Deputy Commissary of Stores.—Major Armstrong, 1st. bat. 16th regt. Native Infantry.—Mr Gill, Conductor of Ordnance.

WOUNDED.—His Majesty's 69th regt. Capt. Barrow, Capt. M'Lachlan, severely, Lieut. Mitchell.—Of the Insurgent Sepoys, there are from 500 to 600 killed.

HOL-

HOLLAND.

Dreadful Accident at Leyden.

Schiedam, Jan. 20.

"On Monday the 12th about five o'clock, the inhabitants of this city were alarmed by a most violent concussion, proceeding, as it was thought, from the north west. Next day we learnt, with horror and astonishment, that the most magnificent part of Leyden was the scene of this terrific explosion. It seems that a vessel, laden with 10,000lbs. weight of gun powder, from Amsterdam, destined for Delft, and then lying in the Rapenburg Canal there, by some means took fire, and instantaneously blew up, destroying all the houses in the vicinity of the canal, and occasioning the premature death of some hundreds of the inhabitants.

"We are credibly informed, by eye witnesses, that scarcely a single house or building has escaped without damage; and that, on the Rapenburg, where the deplorable event occurred, the houses, to a large extent, are levelled with the ground. At the awful moment many families were sitting at dinner with their friends, and thus precipitated into eternity; fathers, mothers, children, and servants, all were rapidly hurried to one promiscuous grave. Husbands have lost their consorts, and their offspring, and the latter their husbands and their sires. Of the number of the dead various conjectures have been formed; many respectable persons have been dug out, and others are known to lie still in the ruins. Among the dead are several of the most respectable families in the city, and many strangers then on visits. Property to a large amount has been lost, great part of which irrecoverably; and many of the necessaries of life spoilt by the showers of broken glass which filled the shops and apartments.

"The King repaired thither in person, and remained the whole night in the streets, assisting to recover and release those who lay buried in the ruins, and encouraged others by reward to exert themselves in the glorious work of humanity. Provisions, money, artificers, every thing has since been sent from the Hague and other cities, to comfort and relieve the wretched sufferers. A few have had wonderful escapes; while others, on the point of being rescued while blessing Providence for their preservation, while promising rewards to their deliverers, were crushed to death by the sudden falling in of beams imperceptibly resting on, or withheld by objects which had been removed.

"Close to the vessel which blew up lay a yacht, on board of which were from fifteen to twenty persons, not a vestige of whom was to be found.

"Two Professors of the university are stated to have been killed, and several other persons in that celebrated seminary. It being fortunately vacation time, great numbers of the students were absent; and those who were present are said to have escaped.

"His Majesty has employed the Magistrates of this unfortunate city to make a general collection throughout the whole kingdom; and ordered 100,000 guilders, out of the Treasury, for relieving the most pressing necessities of the poor, and those who have lost their all.

"Several persons have been taken out alive from under the ruins; but some expired almost immediately afterwards. Great numbers still lie buried, the rubbish forming such vast heaps, that a considerable time will be required to clear them.

"After the explosion, which was awful in the extreme, several fires broke out by the scattering of the lighted turf and coals in the hearths; and this calamity unfortunately drew off, for a while, the attention of the citizens to their suffering fellow creatures, pining and lamenting beneath the ruins of their habitations, but shortly before the seat of hilarity and of social intercourse.

"A Jewish school suffered considerably; sixteen children in it are said to have lost their lives. A charity school near it met the same fate. Dead bodies of children near the spot are discovered from time to time. Fifty children at a boarding school narrowly escaped by the collision of two walls, which supported the beams and roof; — two, however, were crushed to death, and a third died shortly afterwards in its father's arms. Those who were saved rushed into the court yard, where they were shortly afterwards joined by their eager but trembling parents, and there ensued a scene of tenderness, which may be imagined, but cannot be described!

FRANCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, *Dec.* 24.

An Imperial decree has appeared here to the following purport:—

From the Imperial head-quarters at Posen, Dec. 12.

"We, Napoleon, Emperor of France, and King of Italy, have ordained, and we do ordain as follows:

"In the Place St Magdalene, of our city of Paris, a monument shall be erected, at the expence of our Imperial treasury, with this inscription on the front of it—

"The Emperor Napoleon to the Soldiers of the Grand Army."

"In the interior of this monument shall be engraved on marble tablets, the names of all the individuals of the different divisions of the army, and of the regiments who were present at the battles of Ulm, Austerlitz, and Jena; and upon tablets of pure gold shall be recorded the names of those warriors who fell in the above battles. Upon silver tablets shall be engraved the number of those who were furnished to the grand army by the departments, and even by each single department.

"Upon every anniversary of the battles of Austerlitz, and Jena, this edifice shall be illuminated, and a concert given therein, which shall be preceded by an oration upon the necessary virtues of a soldier, making honourable mention of those who fell on those never-to-be-forgotten days. One month previous to each anniversary, a prize shall be given for the best musical work on the occasion.

"A gold medal, of 150 Napoleon's d'or, shall be given for the best musical composition that is considered as deserving of preference. It is expressly forbidden to mention any thing in the least respecting the Emperor, either in the orations or in the odes.

"Our minister for the Home Department will immediately invite the architects to give in plans, in order that the best may be chosen for the accomplishment of this object. The expence must not exceed three millions of francs. (125,000l.) The foundation shall be laid on the 1st of May 1807, and the whole completed before May 1. the year 1809.

"A fund of 100,000 francs, shall be set aside for the yearly support of the building.

"As soon as it is finished, the Grand Council alone of the Legion of Honour shall have the superintendance of it.

(Signed) NAPOLEON."

WAR ON THE CONTINENT.

There have been some more hard battles in Poland between the hostile armies. We have already stated, that after the battle of Pultusk on the 26th Dec. the armies separated, and the French went into cantonments round Warsaw. It appears, that about the middle of January, the Russian General Benningsen marched with a strong body of his army to endeavour to cut off the French division of Bernadotte which had possessed Elbing. The French General, afraid of being surrounded, marched out to meet the Russians, and Bonaparte, learning these movements, sent M. Ney's division to the support of Bernadotte. But the Russians and Prussians, by a rapid movement, interposed a strong column between them, and on the 24th of January attacked Ney near Mohringhen, and drove him back with considerable loss. Next day the Russians attacked Bernadotte, who brought his whole division into action. A desperate conflict ensued, which terminated in the defeat of the French, who lost 4000 men, several pieces of cannon, and all their baggage. The French Generals Dupont and Lecure were made prisoners, and several others were wounded. The Russians had 7500 killed and wounded; among the former Gen. Anrep, a gallant and skillful officer. The result of these victories was the retreat of Bernadotte and Ney into the forests of Strasburgh in East Prussia, about 20 leagues from Elbing, and the raising the blockade of Graudentz. The allies afterwards occupied Elbing, Marienwerder, and Culm on the Vistula.

On the 1st Feb. the Russian army advanced, and attempted to pass the Lower Vistula, when another severe action took place at Bergfried, in which, say the French accounts, the Russians were compleatly defeated, with the loss of four pieces of cannon, and 1700 prisoners. On the 5th another smart battle took place at Walerdorff, wherein the French likewise claim the victory, alledging that the Russians abandoned their cannon, colours, and baggage. On the

the 17th, however, a general and most desperate engagement ensued at Preussick Eylau, which continued for 12 hours, with 300 pieces of cannon playing at a short distance. Though the French again claim this victory, they acknowledge an immense loss—upwards of 8000 killed and wounded, among the former Gens. Hautpoult, Corbineau, and Dahlman, and among the latter, M. Augereau, severely, General Desjardins, Houdalet, and Lochet, and many other officers.

Thus far the French accounts; but if any doubts remained, even from their own shewing, that they were completely defeated in the battle of Eylau, they would be completely removed by the Russian official accounts of that battle. On the morning of Sunday March 8th, Mr Vick, a messenger, arrived with dispatches from St Petersburgh, the contents of which were published in the afternoon, in a *London Gazette Extraordinary*.

Translation of a Letter from General De Budberg, his Imperial Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs, to his Excellency the Marquis of Douglas and Clydesdale, 3d (15th) Feb. 1807.

"General Budberg, minister for foreign affairs, hastens to communicate to his Excellency the Ambassador of his Britannic Majesty, the following intelligence, which arrived last night from the army. General Benningsen, after having fallen back for the purpose of choosing a position which he judged better adapted for manœuvring the troops under his command, took up a position at Preussich Eylau. During four days successively, his rear-guard, commanded by Major-General Barkley De Tolly, had to withstand several vigorous attacks and on the 26th Jan. (7th Feb.) at three o'clock in the afternoon, the battle became general throughout the whole line of the main army. The contest was destructive, and the night came on without the enemy having been able to gain ground.—On the 27th Jan. (8th Feb.) early in the morning, the French renewed the attack, and the action was contested with great obstinacy on both sides; but, towards the evening, the enemy was repulsed on all sides, and General Benningsen remained in possession of the field of battle. Bonaparte commanded in person, and under him Marshals Augereau, Davoust, Soult, Ney, and Bessieres, at the head of the guards, who suffered the most. Our loss is from six to eight thousand men, whilst that of the enemy is estimated at from twelve to fifteen thousand. We have also taken twelve stand of colours, and about fifteen hundred prisoners, among whom there are thirty officers. The courier who brought the dispatches having been sent off immediately after the battle, the Ministers of his Imperial Majesty do not yet know all the details of the above mentioned day.

General BUDBERG has the honour, &c."

Translation of a Letter from General the Baron de Benningsen to his Majesty the Emperor of Russia, delivered by Lieut. Col. Stavitski, Aid-de-Camp to his Imperial Majesty.

"*On the field of battle, Preussich-Eylau,*

SIRE, *Jan.* 27. (*Feb.* 8.) 1807.

"I am truly happy to have it in my power to inform your Imperial Majesty, that the army, the command of which your Majesty has deigned to confide to me, has been again victorious. The battle which has just taken place has been bloody and destructive. It began on the 26th Jan. (7th Feb.) at three o'clock in the afternoon, and lasted until six o'clock in the evening of the 27th Jan. (8th Feb.)

"The enemy was completely defeated; 1000 prisoners, and 12 stand of colours, which I have the honour herewith to transmit to your Majesty, fell into the hands of the conquerors. This day Bonaparte attacked me with his best troops on my centre, and on both wings, but he was repulsed and beaten on all sides. His guards repeatedly attacked my centre without the smallest success. After a very brisk fire, they were repulsed at all points by the bayonet and by charges of the cavalry. Several columns of infantry, and picked regiments of cuirassiers, were destroyed. I shall not fail to transmit to your Majesty, as soon as possible, a detailed account of the memorable battle of Preussich-Eylau. I think our loss may perhaps exceed 6000 men, and I certainly do not exaggerate, when I state the loss of the enemy at considerably more than 12,000 men."

Before Mr Vick left St Petersburgh, that city had been illuminated two nights in consequence of this victory.

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It is said, the German copy of Gen. Bennigsen's letter to the Emperor of Russia represents the loss of the French at 15,000 men, instead of 12,000, which is the number mentioned in the translation, given in the above Gazette. This is probable, as it will be observed that Gen. Budberg states their loss at from 12 to 15,000 men. We have a variety of private accounts of the battle, but they add little to the information contained in the above official letters. Some letters by the Ottenburgh mail state, that a great part of the chosen troops of the French army were fairly cut down by the Russians, and that the latter had four Generals killed. A proclamation published by the Magistracy of Memel on the occasion says:—

"The contest had been so obstinately maintained on both sides, that both French and Russians had refused to accept of any quarter from each other. A body of 15,000 French, who had been cut off during the battle of the 7th, had been surrounded on the 8th by the whole of the Russian army—they refused to lay down their arms, or accept of quarter; but General Bennigsen, after a sharp attack, made them sensible of their fruitless resistance and ruinous desperation, and induced them to surrender at discretion. These are the only prisoners taken. The Russians remained encamped on the field of battle on the 10th; the French had retreated two leagues. General Bennigsen expected a strong reinforcement of Cossacks, and the junction of the Silesian levy; when it is supposed that he will pursue his victory."

It is stated that a French General who had deserted, had arrived at Petersburgh, and that, according to his report, the French had lost nearly 100,000 men, by disease and the sword, since the invasion of Poland.

The captains of several vessels arrived from Tonningen bring reports of another desperate battle having been fought subsequent to that of Eylau, which terminated in the entire defeat of the French, who were driven across the Vistula, with the loss of 30,000 men.

A letter from Bonaparte is said to have been found in the possession of the captive General Victor, in which, speaking of the 26th of December, he says,—it was a very fine day, but it cost him 25,000 men!

Address to the People of Germany, by the Commander in Chief of the Imperial Russian Army.

"By a long series of the most unfortunate events, your country has become a prey to the most cruel and insolent foes. The manifold sufferings to which you have been subjected are known to the Emperor my most gracious Sovereign; and his Majesty is so much the more disposed to take the warmest interest therein, as he himself has sprung from German blood: and, mindful of the intimate ties which exist between his Imperial House and many of the German Princes, he has never ceased to entertain, with regard to the German Nation, all that esteem to which a people so numerous, enlightened, and virtuous, are justly entitled. With this sentiment of the warmest interest in the fate of Germany, are naturally and inseparably conjoined his Majesty's wishes to deliver this empire from its oppressors, and restore it to its just freedom and independence. His Majesty will think no exertion too laborious to attain this great object.

"Inhabitants of Germany! the whole Russian army fights for your interests! Under circumstances so favourable, shall you alone remain inactive?—Shall you be so blinded, as, in the present state of things, to do nothing for yourselves?

"The enemy is at a great distance from his frontiers, in territories, and at a season of the year, which not only do not afford him sufficient means of supply, but also impede all his operations. Will you voluntarily contribute to his relief? Will you act against your own interests? Forget not that you have all possible aid to expect from the brave army intrusted to my command. I trust that I shall victoriously drive back the common enemy of Europe, and convince him that there still remains a people, who, faithful to their country and their Monarch, have both the inclination and the power to resist the imposition of his iron yoke. But, however probable this success may be, his Majesty will still regard it as incomplete, so long as the foe shall not be driven back beyond his natural boundaries; and as this

is the only means of restoring the independence of your country, and obtaining a general peace upon secure foundations, his Imperial Majesty relies, with the fullest confidence, that at this finally decisive crisis, the inhabitants of Germany will not only lend no kind of support to the common foe, but, on the contrary, that they will, by a general resistance, render his further stay in Germany impracticable, and throw every possible difficulty in the way of his retreat towards his own frontiers. By this intimate union of the whole Russian force, with all the means of the German Empire, the common object may be obtained, and peace, so anxiously desired, be once more restored to suffering Europe.

"Take courage then, brave and virtuous Germans! Reflect on the immortal renown of your ancestors, who, in former ages, maintained their independence with the most signal bravery. Unite yourselves under the colours of such of your Princes, in whom the unfortunate events of the times have not yet extinguished a sense of honour, and of their own dignity. To this grand and noble purpose of delivering your country from a foreign yoke, sacrifice every private quarrel, every consideration of internal discord, and then shall you compose a formidable whole, capable not only of disputing every inch of ground with the common enemy, but also of ultimately vanquishing and repelling him for ever within his natural frontier.

"In your efforts to attain so glorious an object, you may rely with the fullest confidence on the powerful and continued assistance of the Emperor, my most gracious Sovereign. The universally acknowledged principles of his Imperial Majesty afford you a guarantee, that not only will his Majesty not abandon you in the present struggle, but that on the happy termination thereof, he will particularly direct his attention to the restoration of the venerable constitution of your country, which for a succession of centuries rendered your forefathers the happiest people on the face of the earth, and which could only be destroyed by the domineering ambition of an enemy, who makes no scruple of treading under foot the most sacred treaties.

"Given at the Imperial Russian Head-quarters,

"Baron Von Benningsen, General of Cavalry, and Military Governor of Lithuania," &c. &c.

The following address has been circulated at the out-posts of the French army:—

"Soldiers of France! Formerly, when foreign armies meditated the conquest of your country, and came even into the bosom of your land to attack you, you repelled them with a valour and perseverance which the whole world admired. The report of your valiant exploits reached even us. Your courage, your loyalty, was known to us, and the soldiers of France became the objects of our esteem. But it is no longer your country which demands your efforts. A war foreign to your interests tears you from your families, your friends, your homes. A tyrant, whose insatiable ambition knows no bounds, drags you into distant climates, and sheds the blood of Frenchmen, that he may bestow Crowns upon his relations. He forces you to combat against people who are ready to offer you pledges of their ancient affection, but who will shed the last drop of their blood in the sacred cause of their country.

"Benningsen."

The determination of the Prussian Monarch to enter into no separate negociation with France seems to be fixed. Our Government have received by Mr Jackson, arrived from Berlin, the conditions of a treaty of peace and alliance between the Courts of London and Berlin, which only wants the formality of ratification. The Prussian Princes of the Blood are raising volunteer regiments in Poland and Silesia, and the loyalty of the Prussian and Silesian peasantry is said to have exceeded the most sanguine expectations.

The King of Prussia's finances, however, were in so low a state, that Lord Hutchinson, after his arrival at Memel, found it necessary to advance 80,000l. for the support of his Majesty's family and domestic household. This advance his Lordship having intimated to the British ministers, his Majesty has recommended it to Parliament to enable him to make good the same.

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The conduct of the Emperor of Russia, in this trying crisis, is marked by equal vigour and determination. To animate the courage of his soldiers, the Emperor has promised to promote every officer who shall distinguish himself, besides a grant of crown lands, &c. The wounded privates are also to receive pensions, and their widows and orphans to be provided for. The patriotic zeal of his subjects keeps pace with his own. The city of Moscow gives 1500 horses for the use of the army; St Petersburgh gives a million of rubles; Count Alexis Orloff has offered a million and a half. These examples are followed by all the different classes.

Respecting Austria we can only say, that her armies are certainly in motion, and approaching to the frontiers of Gallicia; that she has demanded the restoration of Brannau, and that peace or war may, as some suppose it will, depend upon the answer returned to that demand; but that she has already declared against France, is not believed, nor is it at all probable; far less that she has actually come to blows with her. The Court Gazette of Vienna says:—

"The Austrian prisoners of war who have returned from France have given their Sovereign a striking proof of their attachment; for, in spite of all they have suffered on the road, and the seductions to which they were exposed in all the States through which they passed, particularly on the borders of the Rhine, where they were obliged to remain for some months, out of 36,500 men who went to France, 34,000 have actually arrived upon the Austrian territory. Those faithful soldiers chaunted hymns of joy upon their arrival in Austria."

Reports of war having been declared by the Turks against the Russians, and of hostilities having actually commenced, are still current on the Continent, but the statements on the subject are very loose. The following is from the London papers:

"Dispatches have been received by Government from Admiral Louis, the contents of which are of so pleasing a nature, that they were immediately communicated to the Turkish and other foreign Ambassadors. They state, in substance, that the best understanding exists between this Government and the Sublime Porte; and that at the time the dispatches were sent off, all discontent at Constantinople had ceased; and the most friendly intercourse existed between the English Ambassador and the Ministry and high officers of the Turkish Government. It is further stated, that the Canopus of 84, Rear Admiral Louis, the Endymion, 44, and another frigate, are stationed directly opposite the Seraglio. The Thunderer, 74, and Standard, of 64, are anchored to command the passage of the Dardanelles. Our fleet was supplied from the shore with abundance of fresh provisions, and fruit and vegetables of all kinds. They are in a state of perfect health.

"These dispatches are dated December the 29th. A few days before this date, a Russian frigate had passed thro' the Dardanelles in its way to the Black sea, a circumstance which had occasioned the loudest complaints of Sebastiani; but the English Ambassador was permitted to interpose, and the Turkish Government was satisfied. The five sail of the line under Vice Admiral Sir J. Duckworth, were daily expected to reinforce our squadron in those parts. At the date of these dispatches, war had not been declared against the Russians; but we understand the dispatches to state, that this declaration was daily expected. The Turks, however, seemed resolved to maintain their friendship with England; and so popular was the idea of peace with this country, that, were the Government of the Porte even hostilely inclined, the clamour of the body of the people would reduce them to more moderate designs."—Admiral Duckworth's squadron has since joined.

From Germany we have deplorable accounts of the situation of the country, in consequence of its being occupied by Frenchmen. All trade is at a stand. the most opulent inhabitants look forward to nothing but beggary. The Leipsic fair was scarcely attended by any body; in some of the most public streets the shops were not opened.

Bonaparte has issued a decree respecting British property to the following effect:—

"After distinguishing the confiscated British property into three classes, he orders those of the 1st, viz. colonial produce, materials of the first necessity to the manufactories, fine stuffs, and ar-

articles of costly workmanship, to be sent for sale to France; those of the 2d, being provisions, liquors, stuffs fit for the use of the French army, to be placed in the military magazines; and those of the 3d, viz. iron, wood, coals, beer, and earthen-ware, to be sold on the spot where they have been sequestrated.—The produce of the sales made in the conquered territory is to be added to the general account of contributions; and that of the sales made in France to the sinking fund."

A DREADFUL ACCIDENT.

It has never fallen to our lot, we hope it never will again, to communicate the particulars of so dreadful a catastrophe as that which happened on Monday Feb. 23. at the execution of John Holloway and Owen Haggerty, for the cruel murder and robbery of a Mr Steele on Hounslow heath in November 1802, before the debtors door in Newgate.—The singular manner in which this atrocious murder was discovered by one Hanfield, an accomplice in the robbery, but not accessary to the murder, and the general satisfaction which the conviction of the criminals gave, excited an unusual curiosity among the lower classes to witness their execution.

At an early hour, the whole streets leading to the place of execution were crowded to a degree almost beyond remembrance.

On the north side the Old Bailey, the multitude were so immensely great, that, in their movements, they were not unaptly compared to the flow and reflow of the waves of the sea when in troubled motion. In the centre of this vast concourse of people was placed a cart, in which persons were accommodated with standing places to see the culprits, but it is supposed, from the circumstance of too many admitted into it, that the axle-tree gave way; by the concussion many persons were killed. Unhappily the mischief did not stop here. A temporary chasm in the crowd being thus made by the fall of the cart, many persons rushed forward to get upon the body of it, which formed a kind of raised platform, from which they thought they could get a commanding view over the heads of the persons in front. All those who, from choice or necessity, were nearest to the cart, strove to get upon it, and in their eagerness they drove those in front headforemost among the crowd beneath, by whom they were trampled under foot, without having the power of relieving them. The latter, in their turn, were in like manner assailed, and shared the same fate. This dreadful scene continued for some time. The shrieks of the dying men, women and children, were terrific beyond description, and could only be equalled by the horror of the event.

As fast as the mob cleared away after the execution, and those on the ground could be picked up, they were conveyed in carts and on boards to St Bartholomew's hospital, where every attention was shewn, and every assistance afforded, to those who exhibited signs of life.

As soon as the bodies of the deceased were washed, and in a fit state to be exposed, they were laid out in the Elizabeth ward, in order to be claimed by their friends. No language can describe the anguish of the scene, when the people first recognised these mangled remains: Some found a brother, some a son, and others a father. A young woman, who found amongst the dead an only brother, was so strongly affected that she went into violent fits, and continued in that state throughout the whole day. It was truly affecting to see the persons who had missed their relatives so strongly agitated between hope and fear, as they entered the room to view the dead. Some had not resolution sufficiently to convince themselves of that which they wanted to know. Many who had missed their friends or relatives came too late to view the dead, and were almost raving when they were told they could not see the bodies till the next day. Every person about the hospital was employed in this melancholy duty, from nine o'clock in the morning until nearly five in the afternoon, at which time the ward which contained the dead bodies was locked up. As fast as the bodies were owned, they were put into shells, with the name of the parties upon them.

According to the report from St. Bartholomew's Hospital, there were 27 killed, of which three were women, and 15 wounded, of which two were women.

Scottish Chronicle.

AT a general meeting of the proprietors of entailed estates in Scotland, held at Edinburgh on the 16th Feb. Sir G. Mackenzie, Bart. Preses, the draught of a bill for the relief of heirs of entail, proposed to be brought into Parliament next session, was reported by the Committee formerly appointed; and the meeting resolved, that the preses should be directed to transmit the bill to Lord Grenville.

On Monday, March 16, James Gilles, serjeant in the Aberdeenshire militia, was brought to trial before the Sheriff Depute of Haddingtonshire and a respectable Jury, for violently assaulting Mr Peter Burnsfather, tenant in Harperdean, near to his own dwelling house. The proof lasted for some hours, and was summed up to the Jury by the Sheriff; after which the assize inclosed, and returned a verdict finding the prisoner guilty,—but in respect of the very ample testimony given by the officers of the regiment of his general good conduct and peaceable disposition, during several years in which he served in the regiment, they strongly recommended him to mercy; in consideration of which, the Sheriff ordained him to be incarcerated in the jail of Haddington for only three months, to pay a fine, and to lodge security to keep the peace for twelve months, under the penalty of 50l. sterling.

A Dutch frigate has been wrecked in Orkney. The following particulars are given in a letter from Kirkwall, dated 9th March. "The Dutch frigate Utrecht, of 38 guns, commanded by Commodore Costerns, from Helvoetsluys to Curacoa, was wrecked on the island of Sanda, in the storm of the 26th ult. The crew, including 220 artillery, amounted to 450 men, of whom about 100 were either drowned, or have died since they came ashore. They immediately surrendered themselves to the people of the island, and the officers, and about one half of the men, came in here on Saturday last. The men are confined in the town-house under a guard; the officers are lodged, on their parole, at the inns. The accounts of the wreck only reached this on the 1st inst.; and, owing to the continued storm we have had, we had no further intelligence from Sanda until the 7th, when the prisoners came in. Same day, in consequence of an express sent to Caithness, a detachment of 300 volunteers came over to assist us." It was the frigate's first voyage, having sailed from Helvoetsluys in company with two others on the 15th Feb.

On the 1st of January last, a report was brought to Thurso by some fishermen, that a large lugger French privateer of 16 guns, and a proportionate number of men, had been wrecked off the island of Flota, in Orkney, in the storm of the 25th Dec. and that the crew had landed some stores and arms, and had thrown up a small work, and planted their guns; and that they had seized all the boats on the island in order to effect their escape. Lieut Col. Sinclair of the 3d bat. Caithness volunteers, immediately assembled the two Thurso companies, which were instantly embarked on board four fishing smacks, who offered their services. They were joined by one o'clock next morning by Capt. Mason, two Lieuts. and 30 privates of the Strawgleston company; when they all set sail across the Pentland Frith, accompanied by Lieut. Lurcher of the Royal Navy, and Captain James Henderson of the Clyth company, to act as surgeon. On their arrival at St Margaret's Hope, however, they found the danger had been greatly magnified by the terrors of the fishermen. A privateer of the above description had taken shelter among the islands during the storm, but as soon as it abated, she slipped off, without showing any hostile disposition. The zeal and alacrity of the volunteers on this occasion, cannot be too highly praised.

An immense ball of fire was observed at Glasgow on Friday night, March 6th, 15 minutes before ten o'clock, directing its course from (seemingly) south east to north-west, with a very long streaming tail, and towards the end of a sparkling appearance.

A letter from Ellon, dated March 9, says, "The day of the national fast was a fatal day to the finny tribe in Ythan. As far as the river was cleared of the ice by the tide, so far were the trouts smothered by the snow, many cart loads being collected by the country people and fishers at Newburgh, for days after the storm upon the reflux of the tides."

A

A letter from Aberdeen of March 4. says, "Thursday last was one of the most tremendous ever remembered here. About 12 o'clock a violent gale came on from N. W. accompanied with drifting snow, which continued till Friday morning, and blocked up for some days our communication with the country. We have heard of no accident happening in consequence, but to a woman who was overtaken by the drift near Old Meldrum, and unfortunately perished."

In September last, some Russian sailors, who had been captured in the North Sea by a French frigate, were landed at Greenock: one of them was ill of an infectious fever, of which he died. The family with whom he lodged, and others connected with them, caught the fever, several of whom died. The Directors of the Russian White Sea Company, in St Petersburgh, hearing of this, have remitted to Mr John Laird, Greenock, 120l. to be distributed among the surviving sufferers. This has been done, and received by them with the most feeling gratitude.

On Tuesday, March 17. two seamen belonging to South Queensferry, while fishing off Granton, a little above Newhaven, in a small boat, it was overset in a squall of wind. The poor men clung to it, and remained for about an hour in the water, when, being benumbed with cold, they were obliged to let it go: the tide, however, going back, they were left upon the sands; and being carried to the house of the Lord Justice Clerk at Granton, where every attention was paid to them, one of them died; the other is in a fair way of recovery. The deceased has left a wife and several children to lament his loss.

On Monday morning March 9. in a severe gale of wind from the east, the Leith packet, Capt. Barr, from Hull to Leith, was unfortunately wrecked in the mouth of the Humber, when the master, his son, (a boy of 14 years of age,) and John Beggrie a seaman, unhappily perished. The precise number of persons on board is not exactly known, but five were saved from the wreck by the Berwick packet, Capt. Jamieson, viz. James Spalding, M. Macleod, William Corbet, Thomas Muter, and William Buchan.

Wednesday, March 11. Matthew Smith, late weaver or gardener in Paisley, convicted before the High Court of Justiciary of the murder of a female infant near that place in the month of October last, was executed at the west end of the Luckenbooths, pursuant to his sentence. He mounted the drop as soon as he left the jail, and was very penitent and resigned to his fate.

Civil Appointments.

Admiralty, Feb. 9. The King has been pleased to grant Letters Patent, under the Great Seal of the High Court of Admiralty of England, appointing his Grace the Duke of Argyll his Majesty's Vice-Admiral over the Western Coasts and Islands of Scotland, excepting the shire of Bute, and the Islands of Orkney and Zetland.

Whitehall, March 7. The King has been pleased to give and grant unto his Excellency the Right Hon. Charles Arbuthnot, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at the Sublime Porte, his royal licence and permission to accept and wear the insignia of the Ottoman Imperial Order of the Crescent, conferred upon him by the Grand Signior.

March 14. The King has been pleased to constitute and appoint the Right Hon. Thomas Earl of Elgin and Kincardine to be his Majesty's Lieutenant and Sheriff Principal of Fifeshire.

March 2. The King has been pleased to appoint Edward Earl, Esq. to be a Commissioner of the Customs in Scotland, (vice David Reid, Esq. resigned.)

—. To appoint Sir George Young Governor of Tortola.

March 21. To appoint John Peterson, Esq. to the office of Treasurer to the Governors of the Bounty of Queen Anne.

His Majesty has been pleased to appoint Dugald Stewart, Esq. to be Writer, Printer, and Publisher of the Edinburgh Gazette.

The Earl of Hopetoun and Sir William Jardine, have presented Mr William Dunbar, preacher of the gospel, to the church of Applegirth, vacant by the translation of the Rev. Dr Thomas Duncan to the New Church of Dumfries.

Mr John Boyd is appointed Clerk of the Peace of the county of Linlithgow, in room of Mr James Taylor, deceased.

Military Appointments.

Gen. Richard Fitzpatrick, to be Colonel of the 47th foot, vice General Dalrymple, deceased.

Lieut.-Gen. Sir Charles Asgill, to be Colonel of the 11th foot, vice Fitz-patrick.

Lieut Gen. Thomas Sloughter Stanwix, to be Colonel of the 85th foot, vice Sir Charles Asgill.

Major General Thomas Grosvenor, to be Colonel of the 77th, vice Stanwix.

The Hon. Major General John Abercrombie to be Colonel of the 53d regiment, vice General Crosbie, deceased.

General Samuel Hulse to be Lieutenant-Governor of the Royal Hospital at Chelsea, vice Gen. William Dalrymple, deceased.

MAR-

MARRIAGES.

Dec. 23. At Mains, near Linlithgow, Jas. Brown, Esq. of the Falkirk Union Bank, to Miss Janet Wilson Glen, daughter of William Glen, Esq. of Mains.

25. At the house of John Home, Esq. of Kilduff, Carlyle Bell, Esq. writer in Edinburgh, to Miss Joan Home, daughter of the Rev. Robert Home Polwarth.

Feb. 10. At Aberdeen, Lieut. James Mellis, 21st regiment of foot, to Miss Catherine Paterson, daughter of Mr W. Paterson, merchant Gifford.

23. At Stranraer, John M'Master, Esq. Killanray, to Miss Kirk, only daughter of Matthew Kirk, Esq.

—. At Fenwick, Mr John Brown, manufacturer, Glasgow, to Miss Nancy Fraser, daughter of Mr J. Fraser.

28. At Forrest, near Dublin, by special licence, Brigade Major Lindsay, son of Henry Bethune, Esq of Kilconquhar, to Miss Forster, only daughter of Forster Hill Forster, Esq. of Forrest in the county of Dublin.

—. At London, John Briggs, Esq. of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister, to Miss Margaret Malcolm, niece of Admiral Sir Thomas Paisley, Bart.

March 3. At Glasgow, Basil Ronald, Esq. to Mrs Margaret Warnock.

2. At Glasgow, Mr John Graham, merchant, Glasgow, to Miss Isabella Smellie, daughter of Mr William Smellie, East Kirkland.

5. At Powder Hall, John Craig, Esq. merchant in Glasgow, to Miss Maclagan, daughter of the late Doctor Robert Maclagan, physician in Haddington.

5. At Aberdeen, Lieutenant James U. M. Leith, 68th regiment, to Miss Mary Ann Henderson, daughter of the deceased Dr Henderson, physician there.

6. At Edinburgh, Mr John Murray, bookseller, London, to Miss Anne Elliot, only daughter of the late Mr Charles Elliot bookseller in Edinburgh, and granddaughter of Mr Sands, the original projector and publisher of the Scots Magazine.

9. At Southampton, Thomas Graham of Airth, Esq to Miss Caroline Mary Home, daughter of the late Major Home.

9. At Edinburgh, Roger Aytoun, Esq. writer to the signet, to Miss Joan Keir, daughter of the deceased James Keir, Esq. of Kinmonth.

—. At Paris House, Arthur Barclay, Esq. merchant, Glasgow, to Miss Jean Hay, youngest daughter of Hugh Hay, Esq. of Paris.

—. At Deptford, W. C. Grant, Esq. of the 92d regiment, to Miss Susan Milne, youngest daughter of the Rev. Dr Milne of Deptford.

13. At Edinburgh, Patrick Sanderson, Esq. to Miss Helen Christie, daughter of the deceased Archibald Christie, Esq. late of Ratho.

16. At Garralland, Hamilton Boswell, Esq. Ayr, to Miss Jane Douglas, daughter of Patrick Douglas, Esq. of Garralland.

18. At Kenniehill, Mr Robert Lang, merchant, Glasgow, to Miss Jane Govan, second daughter of Alexander Govan, Esq. of Greenhill.

23. At Edinburgh, Patrick Wishart, Esq. of Foxhall, to Miss Margaret Robertson, second daughter of the late Alexander Robertson, Esq of Prenderguest.

BIRTHS.

May 1806. At Prince of Wales's Island, the Lady of Philip Dundas, Esq. a son.

Jan 20. At Boreland, the Lady of Charles Stewart, Esq. Captain of the 21st militia, a son.

Feb. 19. At Inverness, the Lady of Colonel J. Munro of Poyntzfield, a son.

25. At Edinburgh, Mrs Murray of Polmaise, a daughter.

27. At ditto, the Lady of Charles M'Vicar, Esq. a daughter.

27. At Balbardie House, Mrs Marjoribanks of Marjoribanks, a daughter.

28. At Limecraigs, Mrs Stewart of Knockrioch, a daughter.

March 2. At Kirktonhill, Mrs Tayler of Kirktonhill, a son.

3. At Gilmour-park, near Edinburgh, Mrs Irving of Bonshaw, a son.

3. At Edinburgh, the Lady of Henry Veitch, Esq. of Eliock, a daughter.

5. At ditto, the Lady of James Graham, Esq. Advocate, a son.

5. At ditto, the Lady of Colonel Maxwell of Monreith, a daughter.

6. At Camelon House, Mrs W. Stuart, a daughter.

11. At Edinburgh, Mrs Lockhart, jun. of Castlehill, a daughter.

—. At London, the Lady of John Campbell, Esq M. P. a son.

11. At Roxton, in Bedfordshire, the Lady of Major-General Onslow, a daughter.

12. In Somerset-place, London, Lady Thompson, wife of Sir Thos. B. Thompson, Comptroller of the Navy, a daughter.

12. At Milntown, Perthshire, the Lady of John Campbell, Esq. of Kinloch, a son and heir.

17. At Edinburgh, Mrs Kinnear, wife of George Kinnear Esq. banker, a son.

21. At Benholm, Mrs Robertson Scott, a son.

DEATHS.

DEATHS.

July 10. 1806. At Vellore, in the East Indies, Captain David Willison, of the 23d regt. Native Infantry, only son of Mr David Willison, printer in Edinburgh; one of the sufferers in the unfortunate insurrection of the native troops in that fort.

Oct. 15. At Mangalore, Capt. Lieut. John Mackay, of the 5th native regiment.

—. At Seringapatam, the Lady of Major Sir John Sinclair, Bart. after a lingering illness, which she bore with uncommon fortitude.

—. At Agra, Lieut. H. Arbuthnot, of the 5d regiment Bengal native infantry.

—. At Bombay, Capt. John Maughan, of the country service.

—. At Bombay, Lieut. Brown, 3d regt. Bengal native infantry.

Dec. 13. At Fochabers, William Kelman, who was born in the parish of Grange, Banffshire, and by the kirk register was baptised the 10th of December 1704, and of course had completed his 102d year. He was a millwright and carpenter, and continued at his work till within three weeks of his death.

15. Mrs Macdonald, widow of the deceased Angus Macdonald of Achtriachtan.

15. At West-sidewood, John Logan, Esq. of Woodend.

17. At Edinburgh, Mr Robert Andrew, late merchant.

19. At Dumfries, Lieut. John Richardson, of the Royal Westmoreland militia. He was interred with military honours.

19. At Closeburn Manse, Mrs Yorstoun, spouse to the Rev. Andrew Yorstoun, minister of that parish.

20. At Ecclefechan, Mrs Bell, relict of Mr Benjamin Bell, late merchant there.

—. At Riga, Mr Roger Duff, son of Lauchlan Duff Gordon, Esq. of Park.

20. At Edinburgh, aged 74, Mrs Geddes, widow of Mr William Geddes, Supervisor of Excise, and daughter of Mr Archibald Geddes of Mendoll.

21. At Burntisland, Miss Charters, daughter of the late Sam. Charters, Esq. Solicitor of the Customs.

21. At Edinburgh, Mrs Christian Carmichael, relict of Mr James Laing, conjunct depute clerk of that city.

—. At Crawfordland Castle, Mr Robert Caldwell jun.

—. At Glasgow, Mrs Cross, widow of Mr Robert Cross, aged 84.

25. At Troup House, Miss Christian Garden, daughter of the late Peter Garden of Delgaty, Esq.

25. At Kelso, at an advanced age, Mr William Craig late merchant there.

Jan 22. At Shipperton, in Surrey, Fletcher Read, Esq. a gentleman well known in the sporting world. He had spent the previous evening with some convivial friends, and was found dead in his bed the ensuing morning by his servant, having, as it is supposed, died through suffocation.

Feb. 6. At London, General John Reid, Colonel of the 88th regiment. He was 80 years of age, and has left a fortune above 50,000l. sterling. Three gentlemen are named executors, to whom he has left 100l. each; the remainder of his property in trust, to be life-rented by an only daughter, who married without his consent, a Mr Robertson; whom failing, to the College of Edinburgh. When it takes that destination, he desires his executors to apply it to the College, *imprimis*, to institute a Professor of Music, with a salary not less than 300l. a-year; in other respects to be applied to the purchase of a library, and to be laid out in such manner as the Principal and Professors may think proper.

17. At Ipswich, much respected, Mr Thomas Mills, aged 64 years. He was the oldest standing in the East Suffolk militia, having served therein 43 years, and the last 29 as Drum-major. He left the regiment at Aberdeen only about a month previous to his decease.

17. At Keppoch, in Arisaig, Mrs Margaret M'Laurin, spouse of Mr Alexander Chisholm.

18. At Edinburgh, William Dunbar, Esq. writer to the signet.

18. On board his Majesty's ship Isis, in the Downs, Mr William Scott, youngest son of the late Francis Scott, Esq. Queen Street, Edinburgh.

19. At Lasswade, William Simpson, Esq. He served under Lord Cornwallis, as an officer of artillery, during the American war. Upon his return to this country, he married the daughter of an eminent paper manufacturer, which excited his attention to that business, and he became extensively concerned in it. He was the first who introduced into that manufacture the improved method of bleaching by means of the muriatic acid, and he generously communicated the result of his long and expensive experiments to the trade at large, which they acknowledged, by making him a present of a handsome piece of plate.

19. At Boreland, of a consumption, justly and sincerely regretted, Charles Stewart, Esq. Captain of the 21st militia.

22. At Condie, Ebenezer Oliphant, Esq. of Condie.

—. At Langholm, Mrs Henderson, relict of William Henderson, Esq. of Longburgh.

23. At Edinr. Miss Jane Montgomery.

26. At

Feb. 23. At Dalkeith, Mr Wm. Wilson, sen. candlemaker there.

23. At Dumfries, in the 93d year of her age, Mrs Dodd, widow of the late Mr William Dodd, formerly one of the Bailies of that place.

23. At Dumfries, Miss Grace Culton, daughter of the deceased John Culton, Esq. of Auchnabony.

23. At London, General William Dalrymple, Colonel of the 47th regiment, and Lieutenant Governor of Chelsea hospital; he was in the 72d year of his age; a man of the most amiable manners and temper.

24. At Dunbar, Miss Helen Pringle, youngest daughter of the late Mr Pringle, merchant there.

24. At Kintore, Mrs Elizabeth Farquhar; and on the 26th, her husband, Mr Alexander Farquhar, for many years senior Bailie of that burgh. They were both about 82 years of age, and had been married upwards of 50 years. They had often expressed a wish that the one might not survive the other, and they were buried together on the same day in one grave.

24. At manse of Durris, Mrs Margaret Mitchell, spouse to the Rev. William Strachan, minister of that parish.

24. At Edinburgh, Miss Eliz. Dewar, daughter of the deceased Mr Robert Dewar, late merchant there.

25. At her house, York Place, Edinburgh, Dame Eleanora Murray, second daughter of the late John Muarry, Esq. of Philliphaugh, and wife of Sir James Nasmyth of Posso, Bart. She was safely delivered of a son on the 22d ult. and died on the 25th, deeply regretted by all her friends and acquaintances.

26. At Aberdeen, Mrs Jean Reid, widow of the late Charles Jameson, Esq.

26. At Edinburgh, in the 83d year of her age, Margaret Meldrum, spouse of William Clinckaugh, wig-maker.

27. At Burntisland, Captain David Boog, royal Navy.

28. At Elgin, Provost Alexander Brander, in the 71st year of his age. He was most universally respected as a man of great integrity, and is regretted by the society in which he lived, and sincerely lamented by his friends.

28. At Sweet Bank, Mrs Isabella Ballingal, spouse to Mr Neil Ballingal.

28. At Edinburgh, William Bethune, Esq. of Blebo, Principal Clerk of Chancery.

28. At ditto, Miss Boswell, eldest daughter of the late Dr Boswell, physician.

—. At Edinburgh, in the 28th year of his age, Mr Thomas Shedden, merchant in Glasgow, eldest son of John Shedden, Esq. of Muirtown, Ayrshire.

March 1. At Edinburgh, Miss Mary Cunningham, eldest daughter of the late Dr Alex. Cunningham, physician in Dublin.

1. At ditto, Mr John Stirling, late of Jamaica.

1. At Inver, near Dunkeld, Niel Gow, in the 80th year of his age. As a composer of Highland Reels few have excelled him; and his spirited performance of that favourite species of national music will long be remembered.

2. At London, old Mr Solomon Solomons, the rich Jew, aged 80. As a dealer in diamonds and precious stones, as a merchant, as a broker, and underwriter, he is supposed to have amassed a fortune little short of half a million. He died very suddenly; he was in Lloyd's subscription room on Thursday before, when he wrote several policies.

2. At Dumfries, Mr William Dickson, of Margley.

3. At the manse of Newlands, in the 84th year of her age, Mrs Russell, relict of the late Francis Russell, Esq. of Peebles.

3. At North-Berwick Mains, Mary Clunie, relict of the late Mr Alexander Burn, Bennington.

4. At Killin, Mr Archibald Campbell, late Lieutenant in the Royal Perthshire militia.

4. At Dublin, the Right Hon. Lord Carbery.

4. At Aberdeen, Mrs Mary Robertson, spouse of the Right Rev. Bishop Skinner of Aberdeen.

4. At Gogar, Mrs Kirkland, relict of the deceased Dr Robert Kirkland, surgeon Gogar.

4. At Edinburgh, Mrs Alexander, widow of Mr William Alexander, builder, Bristo-Street.

5. At ditto, Miss Elizabeth Ritchie, daughter of the late Mr Alexander Ritchie, merchant.

5. At ditto, Mrs Anne Murdoch, widow of Mr John Pillans, brewer in Edinburgh.

6. At ditto, Mr George Paton, of the Customs.

6. At Millhill, Mrs Robert Gordon, formerly of Greenock.

—. At Douglas Park, Gilbert Douglas, Esq. of Douglas Park.

7. At Jardine-hall, Sir William Jardine, of Applegirth, Bart.

7. At the manse of Dysart, the Rev. Patrick Muirhead, D.D. first minister of the parish of Dysart, in the 90th year of his age, and 54th year of his ministry in that parish.

8. At Perth, the Rev. Mr George Fraser, minister of Monedie, in the 86th year of his age, and 49th of his ministry. He

Live

lived much respected for his honesty of heart, his friendly and humane disposition, and for his dilligence, while his health and strength continued, in the work of the gospel. He has died regretted by his people, and by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

8. At Edinburgh, Miss Jean Balfour, youngest daughter of the deceased Mr John Balfour, late merchant in Leith.

8. At Dunipace, David Spottiswood, Esq. writer to the signet.

9. At Edinburgh, Mr John Stevenson, pump-maker in Portsburgh.

—. At Glasgow, Mr Thomas Gillillan, jun. merchant.

9. At Leith, Mr Robert Kerr late merchant there, in the 80th year of his age.

9. At Edinburgh, Mrs Agnes Jameson, spouse of Thomas Adair, Esq. of Genoch, clerk to the signet.

—. At Bogend, Mrs Thomson, wife of James Thomson, Esq of Earnslaw.

—. At the Royal Barracks, Dublin, the infant son of Brigadier-General and Lady August. Leith.

.... At Aberdeen, the Rev. Alexander Alcock, of St Paul's chapel.

10. At Edinburgh, Mrs Ann M'Donald, aged 89, daughter of the late William M'Donald, Esq. Tutor, Sky.

11. At ditto, John Inglis, Esq. of Auchindinny, Vice Admiral of the Blue.

11. At Pembroke, South Wales, Mr John Clark, land surveyor, formerly engraver in Edinburgh, and known about thirty years ago, by the name of the Caledonian Bard.

11. Near London, Andrew Bromfield, of Southfield, Esq. in Jamaica, late Lieutenant Colonel of St Elizabeth's militia, brother to Colonel Stephen Bromfield, of Hassington-mains, in Berwickshire.

12. At Ayr, Miss Campbell, daughter of the late Mr James Campbell, Irvine.

12. At Port-Glasgow, Mrs Fullarton, aged 95.

12. At ditto, Mrs May Grant, widow of Mr Samuel French, of the General Post Office.

12. At Skelf-hill, in Roxburghshire, Mr James Scott.

12. David Russel, Esq. of Woodside, merchant in Glasgow.

13. At Tillicoultry manse, the Rev. Dr Alexander Stirling, minister of that parish.

13. At Helminton Hall, the seat of the Rev. Robert Spencer, Lady Maxwell, relict of Sir Robert Maxwell, Bart. of Orchardton, Galloway.

13. At Paisley, Miss Simon Fraser, daughter of the late Mr Alexander Fraser, of the Island of Isla.

13. At Irvine, Miss Elizabeth Ewing. By some accident her cloaths caught fire, and she was so dreadfully burnt, as to occasion her death about twelve hours afterwards.

13. At Stirling, Mrs Ann Ross, spouse of the Rev. John Hough, Stirling.

13. At Edin Elenus M. Nasmyth, infant son of Sir James Nasmyth, Bart.

13. At Paradise, in the 78th year of his age, William Dods, Esq. late of the War-Office.

.... At London, Dr Mackenzie, of Hatton-Garden. He died suddenly, owing to the bursting of a blood vessel.

14. At Caroline Park, Miss Ann Cockburn, daughter of the Hon. Mr Baron Cockburn.

14. At Edinburgh, Mrs Jean Turnbull, widow of George Turnbull, Esq. of Dalladies, writer to the signet.

14. At Leith, in the 73d year of his age, John Archibald, Esq. wine merchant.

14. At Edinburgh, Mrs Mary Sloan, widow of James Ramsay, Esq. late Collector of Excise at Dumfries.

15. At Mauchlin, Margaret Paton, who was born the 5th August 1700.

15. At his seat, at Langdon-hall, Devonshire, C. H. Calmady, Esq. Admiral of the White.

15. At Rochester, of a consumption, Mr Thomas Etherington, bookseller and stationer.

16. At Leith, Mr Robert Pearson.

—. At Alloa, the Rev. John Rhind, Episcopal Clergyman at Alloa.

—. At Bristol Hot-wells, Mr Alexander Arthur of Glasgow.

16. At London, in the 79th year of his age, Mr John Pridden, nearly half a century a bookseller in Fleet street, who, by persevering industry, acquired an independent fortune with strict integrity.

16. At Queensferry, Mrs Marion Douglas, spouse of Mr James Liddel, surgeon there.

.... At Allanton, the infant son of Patrick Miller, Esq. younger of Dalswinton.

17. Thomas Patrison, third son of Mr William Patison, merchant, Edinburgh.

17. At the manse of Lochrutton, the Rev. George Duncan, in the 69th year of his age, and the 41st of his ministry.

17. At Glasgow, Mrs Elizabeth Buchanan, wife of Mr John Cochrane.

17. At London, Sir Hyde Parker, Bart. Admiral of the White.

17. At Edinburgh, in his 81st year, Dr John Gardner, Member of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh.

18. At Arlary, Robert Arnott, Esq. of Arlary.

Lately at Cockermouth, in Cumberland, Mr Gillard, father of the English stage since

since the days of the veteran Macklin, at the very advanced age of 86.

18. At Corehead, aged 86, Mrs Grizel Cullan, relict of the Rev. Mr William Scott, formerly minister of Kirkpatrick Juxta.

18. At Edinburgh, at his son Colonel French's house, Joseph French, Esq. aged 78 years.

19. At Lauder, Mr David Edmonstone, writer there, regretted by an extensive circle of friends.

21. At Leith, William Bell, sen. Esq wine-merchant there.

22. At Paisley, Master Adam Keir, son of William Keir, Esq. of Rennieston.

.... At London, John Morthland, Esq. advocate.

—. At London, Gen Charles Crosbie, Col. of the 53d foot,

.... At ditto, Kyd Wake, the printer, who, about the year 1795, was convicted of insulting his Majesty on his way to the Parliament House, and suffered an imprisonment of two years for it. His death was occasioned by his being crushed between the wheel of a waggon and a post in St Paul's Church-yard.

—. At Glasgow, Mrs Aiken of Shirva, in the 89th year of her age.

—. At Port-Glasgow, Mr Robert Blackstock, merchant.

... Gilbert Petrie, Esq. of the Island of Tobago.

—. At Blackheath, John Mason, Esq.

—. In Gateshead, Mr Charles Atkinson, aged 50. He was chosen by Lord Nelson to steer his ship, the Victory, into the Bay of Aboukir, on the memorable 1st of August 1798. He received a wound in the engagement, of which he never completely recovered.

.... At Newington, Mrs Poole, mother of Mrs Dickons, the eminent vocal performer.

SCOTS FIARS—CROP 1806.

East Lothian.—Wheat 40s. 11d.—Barley 31s. 1d.—Oats 23s 9d.—Pease 21s. 1½d.

Mid Lothian.—Wheat 38s.—Barley 26s.—Oats 20s.—Oatmeal 21s. 6d.—Pease and Beans 20s. 6d.

Fife.—White wheat 36s.—Red ditto 34s. 6d.—Barley 24s.—Oats 19s. 6d.—Meal by weight 22s. 6d.—Pease and Beans 18s.—Rye 20s.—Malt 46s.

Price of Stocks.

1807.	Bank Stock.	Omnium.	3 per cent Consols.
Mar. 2.	226 7	1 pr.	62 ½
9.	228 9	1 ...	62 ½ ¾
16.	230	1 ...	62 ¼ ¾
23.		1 ...	62 ¼ ¾

Prices of Grain per quarter, Corn Exchange, London.

1807.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.
	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
Mar. 2.	70 80	32 39	20 30	50 70
9.	70 84	30 38	21 31	48 66
16.	70 82	30 38	21 30	50 68
23.	70 84	36 40	22 31	50 66

Prices of Grain at Haddington.

1807.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s.
Mar. 6.	42 0	26 0	25 6	24 0
13.	44 0	28 0	25 0	28 0
20.	44 0	28 0	22 0	26 0
27.	41 0	29 0	22 0	28 0

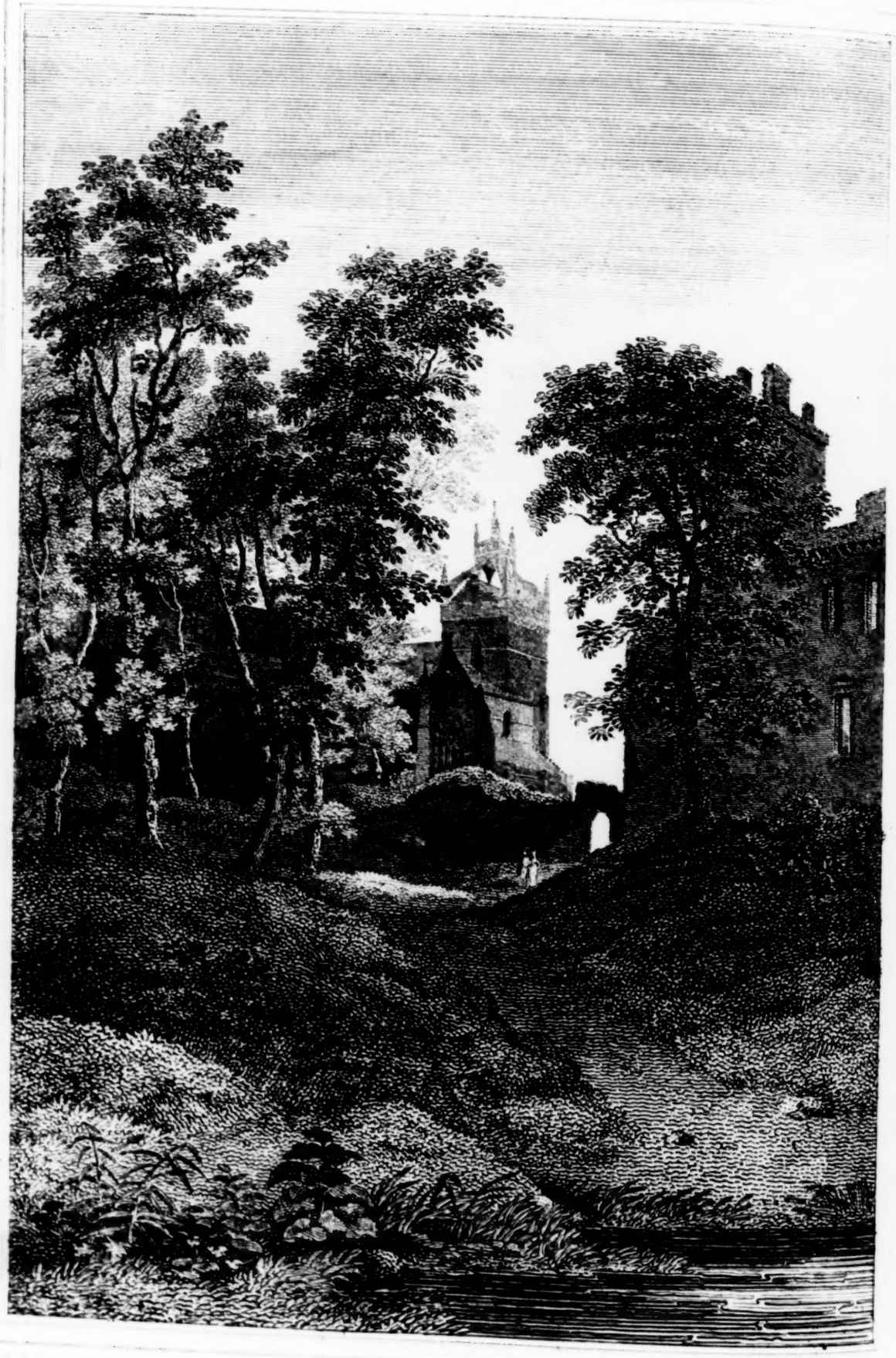
Prices of Oat, Pease, and Barley Meal, in Edinburgh Market, per Peck.

1807.	Oatmeal.		Pease & Barley Meal.	
	Bolls.	Price.	Bolls.	Price.
		d. d.		d. d.
March 3.	250	17 16½	68	15 13
10.	270	17 16½	75	15 13
17.	350	17 16½	61	15 13
24.	300	17 16½	70	15 13
31	270	17 16½	50	15 13

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Letter of *General Macartney* did not arrive in time for this month: In our next, however, we shall give at least such copious extracts from it as may answer the purpose of the writer.

Simplex and *T. M. C.* will appear in our next.



ST. MICHAELS CHURCH, LINLITHGOW.